

DOCKLANDS NEWS

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Forever Free

Puzzles & Trivia - P25



Cooking for a cause
Photo by John Tadigiri

Two of Docklands' favourites waterside restaurants teamed up with the Salvation Army to provide 1000 meals and 500 cups of soup for Melbourne's homeless last month, after the charity saw a 200 per cent increase in those in need of support. *Continued on page 7.*

Plans for precinct revival faces further delay

A highly-anticipated activation strategy "to bring back the buzz" to Docklands has faced a further delay with community and stakeholder consultation to occur later this year.

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*
PLANNING

The strategy, commissioned by Development Victoria, was in response to the pandemic that has left half of the street-facing shops in Docklands either closed or vacant, making it the hardest-hit precinct in the municipality.

The strategy is considered critical to the precinct's roadmap to recovery, but ongoing delays with the draft report – which was originally due to be released in December 2020, before being pushed back to May – have left stakeholders frustrated.

Group Head of Precincts at Development Victoria, Geoff Ward, said his organisation was working closely with the City of Melbourne to "develop initiatives in the short-term" and have "committed to events and initiatives" this year.

While Mr Ward did not reveal why the report had been delayed, he said, "we are planning community and stakeholder consultation later this year, to help shape a long-term vision for the redevelopment of Central Pier and the precinct."

"The activation strategy was undertaken to find opportunities to further activate Docklands and encourage people to visit the precinct and enjoy all it has to offer," he said, adding "we will continue to identify future opportunities".

"A redeveloped waterfront, including Central Pier, will help position Docklands as a key destination for visitors."

A City of Melbourne spokesperson

said, "the City of Melbourne supported Development Victoria on the development of its activation strategy for Docklands, the suburb most affected by COVID-19 in the municipality."

"The strategy is guiding our combined efforts to bring back the buzz to Docklands through activations, events and other initiatives," the spokesperson said.

"We continue to welcome feedback from Docklands residents and businesses in guiding our activation of the area."

In April this year, *Docklands News* revealed that the strategy, which was conducted by events company Alto Cibum, was understood to have been signed off by Development Victoria, but a City of Melbourne spokesperson said the council wanted to ensure "additional measures" were included to help activate the precinct in the short term.

Jackie Watts, chair of Melbourne Maritime Heritage Network, which has made submissions to the strategy, said a new Maritime Experiential Centre would trigger a much-needed activation and visitation to Docklands.

"We're happy to share our thinking but it's a question of respectful response to major stakeholders," she said.

"Good ideas are not what we need, we need the courage to implement some of them."

According to one stakeholder, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, Central Pier would be a "sticking point" in the strategy.

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The Alma is ready for the water

WORDS BY *Jack Hayes*
MARITIME

The *Alma Doepel* is ready to return to the water.

It is the news more than a decade in the making and will be whole-heartedly welcomed by Melbourne's maritime enthusiasts, not least the many volunteers and stakeholders whose painstaking restoration efforts have made it possible.

Restoration director and recent Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) recipient, Dr Peter Harris, said aside from a few finishing touches, the restoration is finally complete, with a tentative date in early September earmarked for the *Alma's* homecoming to Melbourne's waterways.

"The ship will leave here with tugs, and we will tow the barge with the ship on it down to the crane ship at Appleton Dock, just downstream of the Botle Bridge," Dr Harris said.

"Our team will inspect the ship and then we will tow it back to North Wharf."

"We will have the *Lady Cutler* as a spectator boat viewing the process, in addition, we will be running a streaming and video commentary on the web."

According to Dr Harris, the *Alma* will be lowered in the harbour by a specifically engineered crane ship, purpose built for cargo exceeding the size of your usually shipping containers.

The crane ship ventures up and down Australia's east and west coasts, stopping in the Port of Melbourne for a select few days, just once a month.

Dr Harris said Thursday, September 9 will be the likely date for the event, however, he and his team will be at the mercy of the crane ship's workload, and early estimates may need to "give or take a few days."

"The basic plan is that we will organising people to come in groups and tours to take a look at the ship out of water prior to the event, so you can see the hole in the

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CONTACT
Suite 108, 198 Harbour Esplanade
docklandsnews.com.au
Tel: 8689 7980

EDITOR
Sean Car

PUBLISHER
Hyperlocal News Pty Ltd
ABN: 57 623 558 725

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Auskick to launch in Docklands

WORDS BY *David Schout*
SPORT

Docklands Sports Club (DSC) is set to launch its first ever Auskick program, in conjunction with North Melbourne Football Club. Already offering junior cricket and soccer programs, it was only a matter of time before the club located at Ron Barassi Snr Park hosted Aussie rules programs for local kids.

DSC president Carina Parisella said a conversation with Docklands Primary School principal Adam Bright had planted a seed, and they were now all set to go.

Mr Bright had indicated that local kids would certainly be interested if a footy program was established.

“We thought ‘why not?’” Ms Parisella told Docklands News.

“We reached out to North Melbourne Football Club, and they were so excited to partner with us!”

The five-week program was due to kick off on Saturday, July 17, but after Melbourne was plunged into a fifth period of COVID-19 lockdown, the tentative starting date (at time of publishing) was Saturday, July 31.

Despite a stop-start winter season punctuated by lockdown breaks, DSC has continued to build a strong community base in 2021.

The club’s flagship Miniroos soccer program, aimed for kids aged four to 11, was attracting around 50 children each Sunday morning.

In August, DSC was also set to launch a mid-week program with Melbourne Victory for kids aged 10 to 14, that would focus on technical skills.

The club was already in conversation with Football Victoria (the State’s soccer governing body) to establish formal, competitive junior teams from next year.

Notably, it has also installed new signage on the clubrooms at Ron Barassi Snr Park, which is located next to the Bolte Bridge.

“We’re very excited!” Ms Parisella said.



▲ Right: Docklands Sports Club president Carina Parisella (back row, centre) alongside committee members Sam and Niles, with youngsters Luca and Meet (front row).

She reported that the club’s new coffee machine, often seen operated by her dad and fellow Docklander Sam, was working overtime.

“Dad’s very excited, he’s sort of the head barista these days! He’s loving it. That’s creating more conversation and it’s a great way to gather. It’s all about creating a sense of community in Docklands centred around sport,” she said.

While Melbourne’s lockdown has been disappointing for the club, Ms Parisella said the club had used the quiet period to its advantage.

“It’s giving us some downtime to really reflect and assess the strategy of the club. If we didn’t have the last lockdown [Melbourne’s fourth], we wouldn’t have actually been able to start the conversation with the North Melbourne Football Club about how we can keep building momentum.”

She revealed that the club was now part of a Docklands Gift organising committee and that the race, run for the first time in March this year, would return for 2022.

“It [lockdown] has actually given us some time to do that, whereas if we were out every day on the weekend, we wouldn’t necessarily have that. But we’re all feeling a bit more refreshed and strategising what that looks like. So, the Gift is well and truly coming back next year, and lockdown has given us that time to work through different things surrounding that.” ●

“Just before lockdown hit, we were able to organise some signage on the windows, plus the big back wall of the pavilion. It’s a great way to draw attention that this is a community club — for the community, by the community — and it just gives us that additional bit of exposure for anyone walking past, or who have kids playing in the playground.”

For more information:

facebook.com/docklandssportsclub



David Schout
JOURNALIST
DAVID@HYPERLOCALNEWS.COM.AU

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Collins Square

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The *Alma* is ready for the water

Continued from page 1.

September, we will also be celebrating *Alma's* birthday; that is her first launch on October 10, 119 years ago, to be held at the City of Melbourne marina lounge."

Built in 1903 by Fredrick Doepel and named for his youngest daughter Alma, the ship is the last surviving coastal trader from the early 1900s and originally sailed around the coast of Australia, carrying goods like timber, wheat, and jam.

During WWII, the *Alma* was used as an army supply vessel running from Townsville and Darwin to Papua New Guinea.

The ship was bought by Sail and Adventure in 1976 to be restored as a Youth Sail Training ship and underwent a restoration in time for the 1988 Australian bicentenary celebrations in Sydney Harbour.

Now, with several of Melbourne's yacht clubs, service clubs, Rotary and Probus groups, not to mention a considerable cohort of the general public and former volunteers eagerly awaiting the *Alma's* return, Dr Harris said now was the time to see the ship in all her glory.

"Basically, we've been hibernating from public activity for 10 years and now is the time we come out and turn into a beautiful butterfly," he said ●



▲ *Alma* Doepel restoration director Dr Peter Harris.



▲ Dr Peter Harris (left) and his team of volunteers.

For more information:
almadoepel.com.au



The return of the social club

WORDS BY *Spencer Fowler Steen*
COMMUNITY

After this extended lockdown, Docklands residents are itching to get out and about to meet new people, and catch up with old friends.

That's why 24-year-old local Maria Baturina recently started a Facebook group chat in response to keen interest shown on the Docklands Community Hub (DCH) Facebook page from locals wanting to connect socially with their neighbours.

Ms Baturina recently moved to Melbourne from Russia to work and study, but did not know anyone.

Keen to meet people her age, she arranged a catch-up at Berth restaurant last month with other members of the DCH, which she said went well, but then COVID abruptly put an end to plans to meet up again on July 28.

"I have created a group chat with more than 20 people," she said.

"Basically, those who commented on the post I made about meeting up, I added to a group chat. Because we're nearby it's easier to meet up, but personally I'm keen on meeting everyone." Now working at an IT consulting company in Melbourne, Ms Baturina moved from Moscow to Clayton

three years ago.

But the slower-paced lifestyle in that neck-of-the-woods was too far removed from the city living she was used to.

"Living in Docklands is wonderful," Ms Baturina said.

"I loved Docklands before living here. And then when I had an opportunity to move to another place, I was specifically looking to live in Docklands."

The views, the restaurants, the activities, and the not-too-quiet, not-too-busy vibes in Docklands is what Ms Baturina loves so much.

But like everyone, she is eagerly awaiting Melbourne's reopening.

The former director of *Docklands News*, Shane Scanlan previously co-ran the Docklands Social Club with Andrew Jay – a casual, evening gathering once a month at different restaurants to enjoy a chat, meal and getting to know other Docklanders.

Ms Baturina said people can get involved by first joining the DCH, then privately messaging her on Facebook ●

For more information:
facebook.com/groups/docklandscommunityhub

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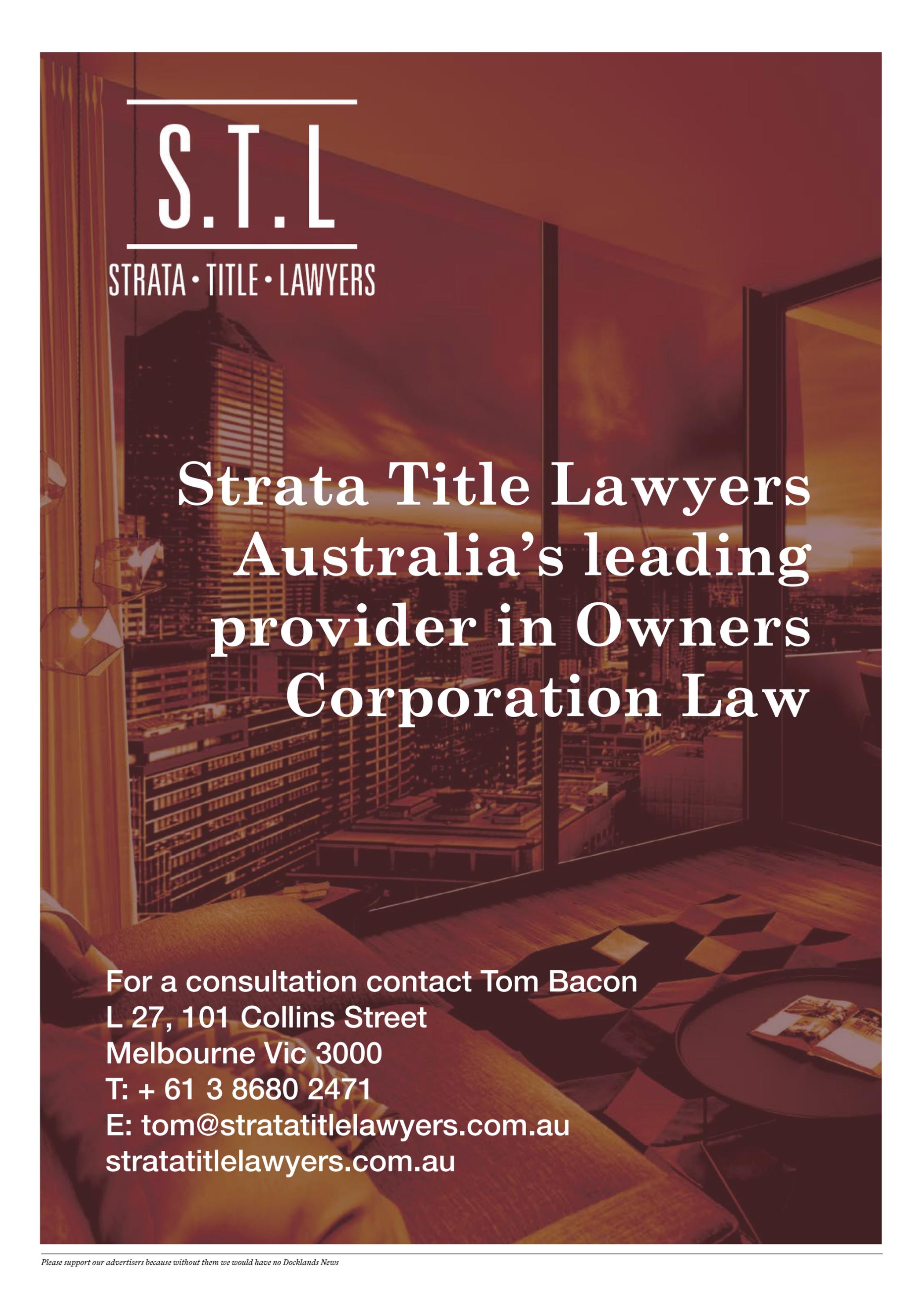
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COVID scare forces hundreds into isolation

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*
HEALTH

Hundreds of residents and workers in Docklands were forced into isolation after a host of locations emerged as COVID-19 exposure sites.

The virus scare sent residents at the Lacrosse apartment building at 673 La Trobe St into 14-day isolation after it was deemed a Tier One exposure site on July 24.

The Victorian Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) said an infectious case attended the building from July 16 to 23 and all residents were asked to get tested and isolate.

“Our public health teams are undertaking on-site cleaning of common areas of the complex and are contacting residents to arrange testing,” a statement from the Department said.

A pop-up testing site was set-up on July 24 to “facilitate rapid testing” with more than 200 residents getting tested on July 25. Thirty-two individuals who were prioritised for rapid testing returned negative results.

DHHS also revealed a positive case attended Collins Square at 727 Collins St as well as the end-of-trip facility between July 13 to 15, prompting a Tier One alert.

Anyone who had visited the building (at level 19, tower four) was told to get tested for COVID-19 immediately and isolate for 14 days.

A Walker Corporation spokesperson said all Collins Square end of trip facilities, lobbies, towers, and retail precinct reopened on July 18 “after confirmation for use again by [the] Department of Health and Human Services.”

“This followed a comprehensive deep cleaning program, carried out in line with strict Victorian Government guidelines,” the spokesman said, which included a deep clean of the other towers as a “further precautionary” measure.

“We continue to prioritise the safety of our tenants and visitors and adhere to the latest COVID-19 guidance issued by [the] Department

“The impacted retailers have worked closely with the Department of Health and Human Services to assist with contact tracing and to undertake a deep clean of their stores.”



of Health and Human Services Victoria.”

Tanya Shronopoulos, the service customer manager of the Commonwealth Bank Docklands Branch at Collins Square, said her team initially went into “panic mode” upon hearing the news, “but we got tested [for COVID-19] and we were fine.”

“Because we are essential services, we are still attending the branch for our customers,” she said.

Sandra Nesci, whose Mr Collins café remained open for takeaway at Collins Square, said although her business was not directly affected by the exposure site, she saw a big drop-off in customers.

“I think people are a bit scared to come in,” she said, adding that many of her regular customers from nearby offices were forced into

isolation for 14 days.

The District Docklands Market was on high alert after The Butcher Club and the Gourmet Deli House were listed as Tier One exposure sites on July 15.

A District Docklands Market spokeswoman said both shops “immediately closed their stores” and notified staff members who may have been exposed.

“The impacted retailers have worked closely with the Department of Health and Human Services to assist with contact tracing and to undertake a deep clean of their stores,” the spokeswoman said.

“In addition, a deep clean of the surrounding areas of The District Docklands was immediately undertaken as a precautionary measure. No other retailers were impacted.”

“All non-essential retail is currently closed, with Market Lane at The District Docklands open for essential products and services for our local community. The health and safety of our customers, retailers, and community is our priority.”

Angelo Theo and his wife Patty, who run two cafes in Docklands, were forced into 14-day isolation after discovering they had visited a Fitzroy restaurant that was later listed as a Tier One exposure site.

“I was shocked ... it was just out of the blue,” Mr Theo said. “It was my wife’s birthday; it was the only day we thought let’s go out.”

Mr Theo, 54, said staff were able to continue trading at their cafes (In a Rush and Focaccino) until their isolation period finished on July 29.

“We’re just grateful that we can keep our shops open as tough as it is,” he said, adding they were grateful for the community’s support.

Positive cases also attended Southern Cross Station, Ichimaki Japanese restaurant at Docklands Stadium, and Story Coffee and Foodstore at 700 Bourke St.

Public Transport Users Association spokesman Daniel Bowen said he was confident public transport remained safe, “particularly given the mask rules currently in place” ●



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Keeping Docklands maritime history in shipshape condition

WORDS BY *Emma Hartley*
COMMUNITY

Against the Docklands horizon with its gleaming skyscrapers bobs a ship invoking more than 180 years of history.

Michael Womack oversees the upkeep of the near replica of the *Enterprize* – the ship that brought the first white settlers to Melbourne in 1835.

“It’s a great opportunity for kids to start appreciating that it’s not all video games but going back 180 years, this is how people moved around the world,” Mr Womack said.

The reproduction ship uses the same 1830s technology and is undergoing the rigging replacement that occurs one in every seven years.

Authenticity is a key priority of the *Enterprize* project so the ship relies on traditional supplies.

The hemp rope comes from Holland, the sailcloth from France, and the Stockholm tar from Finland.

“The tallow (sheep’s fat) used for lubricating the rope is “not as easy to find as you might expect.”

“I phoned up Australian tallow suppliers and they asked – do you want five tonnes? We only needed a couple of kilograms, so I ended up getting it from a fish and chip supplier,” Mr Womack said.

The reproduced *Enterprize* has space for eight passengers and nine crew.

There is a sailing program that leaves Williamstown on the first and third weekend of each month and school programmes which run throughout the week ●

New ferry terminal on the horizon

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*
PLANNING

Melbourne billionaire Paul Little has unveiled plans to build a new ferry passenger terminal and community hub in Docklands in what could be a huge boost to “activate the esplanade”.

The former Essendon Football Club chairman and owner of Port Phillip Ferries has lodged a permit application with the City of Melbourne to replace the ferry terminal building beside Harbour Esplanade.

According to the planning submission, the current building is “no longer fit for purpose given substantial patronage and business growth of Port Phillip Ferries over their last four years of operation”.

Under the plans, the existing building would be removed to make way for a new community hub and ferry passenger terminal which would also feature a café, waiting room, foyer, verandah, bathrooms, ticketing office, deck, and a ramp.

“The proposal supports the purpose of the Docklands Zone as it will improve the visual amenity of Victoria Harbour and strengthen the mix of uses within the area,” a pitch to the City of Melbourne stated.

Port Phillip Ferries has attracted around 300,000 visitors to the area which is expected to grow as people seek to commute between Melbourne, Geelong, and Portarlington.

City of Melbourne Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece said Victoria Harbour was “a much-loved part of Melbourne” and vital as a major water transportation hub.

“The entire city would benefit from expanded activity, to make Victoria Harbour the Flinders Street Station of water transport services,” he said.

“While it’s exciting to see developers keen to invest in the future of water transport within Docklands, all applications will be carefully considered by council officers.”

The proposed four-metre building would accommodate up to 100

patrons and open seven days a week from 6am to 8pm on weekdays, and 9am to 8pm on weekends and public holidays.

Jackie Watts, chair of Melbourne Maritime Heritage Network, said while she welcomed the proposal, the designs would need to “adequately factor in new and expanded ferry services so that we can optimise the value of our extensive waterways”.

Jeff Gordon, managing director of the Melbourne showboat, *Lady Cutler*, which has been in operation for 14 years at Victoria Harbour, said he didn’t have “a problem with anything that activates the waterway”, but the proposed ferry terminal should not be to the “disadvantage of other boat operators”.

“It should be for everyone, we are the passenger boats for Melbourne,” he said.

“In a wet night in Melbourne, people need somewhere to shelter. It’s no good just dropping them out of the tram and sticking them on an empty wind-swept wharf.”

“The entire city would benefit from expanded activity, to make Victoria Harbour the Flinders Street Station of water transport services.”



“If you say this is going to be Paul Little’s little playground and only give him the opportunity then you’re cutting out all the active businesses that have been activating the waterway all these years.” ●

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Cooking for a cause: Berth and Cargo dish up 1000 meals for the homeless

WORDS BY *Jack Hayes*
PHOTOGRAPHY BY *John Tadigiri*
COMMUNITY

Two of Docklands' favourites waterside restaurants teamed up with the Salvation Army to provide 1000 meals and 500 cups of soup for Melbourne's homeless last month.

With their venues closed due to COVID-19 restrictions, Berth and Cargo co-owners Jerry Dimas and John Scarda were faced with the issue of excess produce and desperately idle staff.

Instead of throwing out ingredients destined for their customers' plates or to be the feature of their many events booked during the period of this latest lockdown, the pair opened up their kitchens and put staff to work for a fantastic cause.

"We just want a good news story in the area. We've seen how flat lockdown is for everyone. For us, our staff and all the businesses around the CBD and Docklands," Mr Scarda said.

"We gave [the Salvos' Major] Brendan gave a call and said, 'hey, how are you going for food?' He said they'd been inundated with people coming through, we just don't have enough to feed them."

"What better way to get our staff back on site and make them feel like they have got some purpose."

Their partnership with the Salvation Army will provide desperately-needed relief for a charity who sees a 200 per cent increase in those presenting for their support.

On Friday, July 23, Mr Dimas and Mr Scarda, along with a 30-strong crew of staff and their children, prepared 1000 lamb curries with rice pilaf and 500 pumpkin soups to be sent to the Salvation Army's Bourke St café.

According to Mr Dimas, this latest lockdown had been the hardest for his staff to handle, but the possibility of helping out the Salvo's brought them joy.

"We've seen with our team meetings, that out of all the lockdowns the staff seem the most

down during this one," Mr Dimas said.

"Everyone's eyes opened to the possibility of helping out the Salvos and also for their own morale."

"Yes, we had some excess produce left over that we needed to use, but our suppliers have also jumped on board to lend a helping hand which has been awesome."

Mr Dimas and Mr Scarda first partnered with the Salvation Army more than eight years ago with the idea of providing meals on Christmas Day for those homeless or at risk of homelessness.

According to the Salvation Army's Major



Brendan Nottle, the partnership has thrived ever since.

"John and Jerry reached out to us back then to see if we could work together on something for Christmas Day. They've put on a magnificent Christmas brunch down at Cargo usually for about 250 to 300 people that would otherwise miss out on Christmas," Major Nottle said.

"The relationship has just been maintained each year to the point where they have staff, including John and Jerry, that volunteer at our café that we run for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness."

"For us, we view lockdowns with dread be-

cause we don't know who is going to present to the window and if are we going to have enough resources to look after them. So, to have Cargo and Berth reach out to us and say, this is what we are going to do, is just brilliant."

Major Nottle said his team at the Salvation Army was readying themselves for a drop in numbers during lockdowns, however, the number of people presenting for meals had increased each time a lockdown occurred.

"Not only has it gone up, but we have had new faces presenting that we had never seen before. Early on it was construction workers coming in during the first lockdown, because they were



uncertain if they were able to maintain work," Major Nottle said.

"We've seen international students turning up for support because a lot of them were involved in the hospitality industry and were stood down. Then, with the last lockdown, it was casual workers who were stood down and there was no safety net for them like JobKeeper. It has been new faces every time."

According to Major Nottle, the reality was that donations didn't go up during a lockdown, they often trended downwards.

To have donations of this nature from the team at Berth and Cargo sends a wave of relief

"A lot of small businesses are on their knees, but the way Melburnians operate is they often lift their gaze and see that there is someone else in a worst position."



for the Salvation Army.

"To have this pressure taken off us has meant we can keep doing what we are doing, which is meeting unmet needs," Major Nottle said.

"It is part of who Melburnians are. A lot of small businesses are on their knees, but the way Melburnians operate is they often lift their gaze and see that there is someone else in a worst position."

"They will reach out to organisations like us and say we have something; do you want it? More often than not, it is exactly what need at just the right time."

With their thriving partnership in full swing, Mr Dimas and Mr Scarda not only have their eyes on their next philanthropic event but have also turned focus to becoming a driving force in Docklands' post-COVID recovery.

"Docklands has a huge advantage coming out of lockdown. We have these huge outdoor dining areas along the strip that no other precinct has like Docklands does," Mr Dimas said.

"Coming out of this, we need to work together as businesses and locals to make Docklands Melbourne's number one destination." ●







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Businesses “simply giving up” after lockdown repeat

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*

PHOTOGRAPHY BY *John Tadigiri*
BUSINESS

Businesses owners in Docklands “are simply giving up” and closing their doors for good as the devastating impacts of lockdowns takes its toll.

Docklands Chamber of Commerce president Johanna Maxwell said 50 per cent of street shopfronts were vacant as foot traffic plummeted to no greater than 17 per cent of pre-COVID levels.

“People have moved out to the suburbs or further and aren’t coming back,” she told Docklands News, adding there had been a cultural shift to working from home “that isn’t going to change”.

After forecasting last month that Docklands “would be changed forever” because of COVID-19, Ms Maxwell said “we’ve already seen that change occurring in some very specific ways”.

“We can all see that we are going to be living with this virus and the consequences for a long time to come. People and businesses are simply giving up.”

It comes as several businesses told Docklands News they had reached breaking point after Melbourne was plunged into its fifth lockdown.

Thang Truong, who has been operating Kenny Bakery Café on Merchant St for eight years, said revenue from selling takeaway had dropped to 85 per cent of normal trade.

He said there was not enough cash flow to pay rent which he had fallen behind by two months and was sometimes up to two weeks late in paying for stock deliveries.

“We are still trading but sometimes it’s not enough to pay for wages,” he said. “You only take day-by-day; you can’t plan ahead.”

Anthony Purcell and his wife Lisa, who have been running Melbourne Tramboat Cruises for 21 years, were also left reeling after cumulative lockdowns had “totally decimated” their beloved business.

With river cruises off limits during the latest lockdown, the couple said they had pivoted their business by selling a few coffees by the Maribyrnong River “to try and make some ends meet”.

Ms Purcell said consistent restrictions meant bookings had dried up with business picking up only a little in May when they had a full week of operating cruises.

She said every time there was a lockdown they felt like they were starting again as “the phone doesn’t ring at all for about six weeks afterwards”.

“We are often booked out with corporates doing transfers and packages to the races [for the Spring Racing Carnival]. I have not had one



▲ Left: Renzo Mammolito of the popular Renzo's Bar is staying strong. Right: Lisa Purcell and husband Anthony, owners of Melbourne Tramboat Cruises, are trying to remain optimistic.



“

Hopefully we get through, and things will get better. There's no other way, we have to keep strong.

”

inquiry this year, normally we would be fully booked by now,” Ms Purcell said.

Diego Ayal, who opened Charlie Bit Me Café on Collins St less than two years ago, said while his shop remained open for takeaway during the lockdown, revenue had fallen by 80 per cent.

The hardest part, he said, was having to stand down three staff but once the July lockdown ended, he was confident of offering them more hours.

Meanwhile, he was trying to stay positive but this time around he felt things had been “really tiresome” with no chance to “progress with anything”.

Renzo Mammolito of the popular Renzo's Bar said he had tried to sell takeaway during the fifth lockdown but it was not enough to turn a decent profit.

“There's no point, there's not much in takeaway. I think in NewQuay, not many people are open,” he said.

Before the lockdown was announced, he said, “I was actually looking to employ extra staff because we were busy, we had a lot of bookings.”

“Hopefully we get through, and things will get better. There's no other way, we have to keep strong.”

Teresa Lane, owner of Melbourne Holiday Apartments in Docklands, said she had suffered \$10,000 worth of cancellations in one week.

“We did pick up considerably,” she said before “all of a sudden” the lockdown brought this to a shuddering halt.

“We've just got to make do, it's difficult,” she said, adding their longer-stay clients were “keeping us going at the moment.”

In terms of government cash support, she said “what we're getting is not enough for hospitality.”

“It's not even paying the rent, it's a small amount for a lot of pain. I think last time we got \$5000 and this time we got \$2000.”

“I think the government needs to give us a little more support if they're ready to lock us down so quickly.”

Bryan Letch, who runs Docklands Personal Training Studio, said it was “just a matter of pushing through” after his studio had been “completely shut down”.

“I'm not growing my financial situation, there's no way I'm able to do that under these conditions,” the 35-year-old father of one said.

“I do have some long-term clients, who are really loyal and they've stuck with me.” He said he was currently studying a bachelor's degree in food and nutrition at LaTrobe University, which he began last year to “ride out” the pandemic and “come out the other side of it with extra strength in my services”.



▲ Diego Ayal, owner of Charlie Bit Me Café on Collins St.

Melbourne Lord Mayor Sally Capp has urged the federal government to set national targets for the level of vaccinations after declaring “uncertainty is hurting businesses as much as the lockdowns.”

“After more than a year of lockdowns there is still no ‘freedom day’ on our horizon which means there is no hope for our small business owners and workers,” she said.

“National Cabinet must urgently agree on how many people need to be vaccinated before the lockdowns stop. This will provide certainty and confidence to business that there is an end date for the devastating lockdowns, state border closures and crippling uncertainty.”

Cr Capp said until that occurred, the federal government needed to reinstate JobKeeper so small business owners could “survive until we reach the vaccination rate that allows them to stay open.” ●

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New name, principal announced for Fishermans Bend school

WORDS BY *David Schout*
EDUCATION

Experienced educator Anne Stout has been appointment foundation principal of the newly-named Port Melbourne Secondary College, set to open in 2022.

She told *Docklands News* of her excitement for the “rare opportunity”, and her vision for the school’s role in the area.

The brand-new secondary school to service Southbank, Docklands, Port Melbourne and South Melbourne will be called Port Melbourne Secondary College.

After consultation in June considered “public interest, relevance to the local area, and local indigenous languages”, the interim “Fishermans Bend Secondary School” was formally named Port Melbourne Secondary College by the State Government in July.

And The Mac.Robertson Girls’ High School principal Anne Stout was last month named the school’s foundation principal.

Ms Stout enters the role with significant experience in founding schools, having served as assistant principal of Albert Park College when it first opened in 2011.

She told *Docklands News* the role at Port Melbourne was a special one.

“It’s really, really exciting,” she said.

“As a principal, the opportunity to actually start your own school is really rare, but it’s a real privilege. And it’s a big responsibility in this community in particular. I was part of the foundation of Albert Park College, and I know obviously how successful APC has been. The community is looking for something that’s as successful, or more successful, and there’s a sense now that government schools can provide an education that is just as good, if not better, than an independent school.”

In its first year, Port Melbourne Secondary College will open to students in Year 7 and progress by year level thereafter.



▲ Anne Stout, the newly-appointed founding principal of Port Melbourne Secondary College, which will open in 2022.

Eventually, it will have an enrolment capacity of 1100 students.

Ms Stout said the new school building on Graham St — currently two months ahead of schedule — was “phenomenal”.

“I have to say, the new building is out of this world. I think people will be incredibly impressed when they see it.”

She said the chance to work on the doorstep to Fishermans Bend, Australia’s largest urban renewal project, was unique.

“It’s a growing development and the school has been designed for that area. At the moment there’s not a lot of residents there, but they will come,” she said.

Ms Stout said while there was always a “sense of nervousness” when a school opened in the local area, positive recent examples — including both South Melbourne and Docklands Primary Schools — should give locals confidence.

“I think now there’s a sense of excitement with new schools, because we’ve had a lot in

Victoria over the past few years, and people have seen how successful they’ve been ... the mood in the community now has shifted from nervousness to excitement, which is great.”

She did, however, understand why parents might be apprehensive.

“It’s hard for people to visualise what a school will be like until they see it. You’re trying to help people understand or sell a narrative around a school, a community and a building that people can’t see yet. So, it’s a lot of trust and faith for parents to decide to send their children to a school that they’ve never seen before ... that’s a big act of faith for families. And there’s a lot of responsibility when you’re principal to deliver, because people are really putting their trust in you,” Ms Stout said.

While a principal’s workload is always considerable, Ms Stout said working at a yet-to-open school was a unique experience.

Current tasks included policymaking, establishing the vision and values of the school, curriculum planning, staffing, and timetabling.

“At the moment we have an almost-constructed building, and me. There’s nothing else,” she said.

“It’s a lot to get my head around. Obviously when you normally walk into an established organisation it’s very different to having to remember every single thing. And if I don’t remember it, it won’t be there on day one.”

Member for Albert Park Martin Foley told *Docklands News* Ms Stout was an “excellent choice” as the inaugural principal and was “well regarded”. “[She] knows the aspirations and values of our community. Knows all the local schools [and] is committed to excellence,” he said.

According to the State Government, Port Melbourne Secondary College will have a strong focus on STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and maths) subjects.

The school was currently taking enrolments for 2022 and hoped to invite families to tour the facilities in term four.



▲ Ms Stout pictured with Education Minister James Merlino (left) and Member for Albert Park Martin Foley during a recent visit to the school site.

Ms Stout confirmed that Docklands did not fall within the school’s “zone”, despite the Department of Education confirming with *Docklands News* in May that the school would “serve students living in the Docklands area”.

However Ms Stout said they would likely look beyond the immediate catchment area in initial years.

“We’re certainly expecting to be able to take students out of zone in the first couple of years,” she said.

“While Fishermans Bend is growing, there’s an expectation that we’ll be able to take students from areas that are close to the school but slightly outside the zone. So, I’ll be encouraging families that are interested to put their applications in.”

For enrolment enquires, email:
stout@education.vic.gov.au

Market traders staying optimistic about reopening

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*
COMMUNITY

Traders at the Docklands Sunday Market are staying optimistic they will be able to reopen soon and look forward to bringing back the community vibe.

The market, which is popular with independent traders selling everything from locally-made clothing and jewellery to handcrafted goods and

delicious food, came to grinding halt when the lockdown was announced in July.

Eileen Fiederling, who has been running the market at NewQuay Promenade for more than a decade, said the lockdown had been difficult for many traders.

“They’re suffering like everybody, there are people there who depend on it and that’s important,” she said. “We tried to operate a farmers’

market last year during the restrictions however it was closed by the City of Melbourne [due to stage 4 restrictions] and we were unable to get it started again so have reverted to a regular food and craft market.”

Nadia Despotellis, an owner of scarf and fashion accessories stall Silky Scarves, which she has run at the Docklands Market for the past six years, said she couldn’t wait to see customers face-to-face again.

“I have scarves, so cold weather for me is optimal ... I can’t say it’s thriving like pre-COVID but generally hanging in there as long as I’m able to open my market stall,” she said.

Like many, she has been running her business from home during lockdowns and was totally reliant on her online presence (silkyscarves.com.au), which she said was in the process of being upgraded but was staying positive it would “take off” in the

coming weeks.

The Docklands Sunday Market was last held on June 4, with a reopening date to be set once there are no restrictions. It is normally held on the second and fourth Sunday of each month from 9am to 2pm

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Keeping Docklanders healthy for 10 years

WORDS BY *Jack Hayes*
BUSINESS

Docklands Health will be celebrated for a decade of service to the community next month in a ceremony with Lord Mayor Sally Capp.

The Lord Mayor's Commendations will recognise 50 of Melbourne's oldest and most-loved small businesses for their ongoing commitment and service to locals.

For Docklands Health owner and local stalwart, Mike Edgley, this comes as acknowledgement for 10 years of persistence in building a more liveable Docklands.

"It is great to have the recognition, not just for us, but for the others that have come before us, who put the effort in to create and grow a Docklands community," Mr Edgley.

"It is the main act of being recognised for our contribution to the community more so than running a business. That is where the real appreciation comes from."

According to My Edgley, when he first started on Batman's Hill 10 years ago, Docklands was a shadow of what we see and enjoy now.

There was no Collins Square, no NAB or Medibank buildings, and certainly no Wheel.

Docklands Health was just a team of two, with working quarters consisting of two-and-a-half rooms, working two days a week.

Now, Docklands Health has grown to a 13-strong team working across six separate rooms and a gym area.

This evolution, Mr Edgley said, was indicative of the growing and thriving community in Docklands.

"To see Docklands, change from 2011 to 2021, has been amazing. If it [Docklands] hadn't grown over the first eight years of that, it wouldn't have survived the pandemic," Mr Edgley said.

"Pre-pandemic, our client base was 80 per cent corporate and 20 per cent locals. Now those numbers have completely reversed."

"It has driven an unexpected social benefit with our community. We became a hub of inter-



▲ Docklands Health owner and local stalwart, Mike Edgley, has seen Docklands transform over the past 10 years.

"It's never been more important to honour small businesses and highlight how much they mean to our city."



action, sometimes being the only people locals would see outside of their own homes."

In a suburb often maligned, Docklands Health has been a beacon of hope and consistency and has been rightfully honoured by the Lord Mayor Sally Capp.

The Lord Mayor's Commendations have been celebrating small businesses and their stories since 2005.

"It's never been more important to honour small businesses and highlight how much they mean to our city," the Lord Mayor said.

"Melbourne's small businesses have endured the toughest trading conditions in decades, and we want to recognise and support them as the city recovers."

"Whether it's a butcher or a book store, small businesses are the lifeblood of our city. These awards recognise and celebrate businesses that

have stood the test of time."

"Anyone who has run a small business knows it's a tough role, so it's important we congratulate and honour the commitment of some of our longest-serving proprietors."

The commendations program shines a spotlight on small-business owners who have serviced the city for 10 or more years.

More than 620 small businesses have received commendations since the program began in 2005.

Without COVID-induced interruptions, Lord Mayor Sally Capp will present the Commendations to Mr Edgley and the remainder of this year's recipients during a ceremony at Melbourne Town Hall on Thursday, August 12.

In continuing his team's commitment to the community, Mr Edgley and Docklands Health will be running several community events during the next few months.

In September, they will run a public event at Library at the Dock for Women's Health Week, which will include talks from a physiotherapist, gynaecologist, a GP, and professor of medicine from the University of Melbourne.

"In terms of Docklands Health itself, we have new initiatives like kinesiology and raki starting in August, as well as Bowen Therapy," Mr Edgley said.

"We just want to continue growing and servicing Docklands." ●

For more information:
docklandshealth.com.au



Jack Hayes
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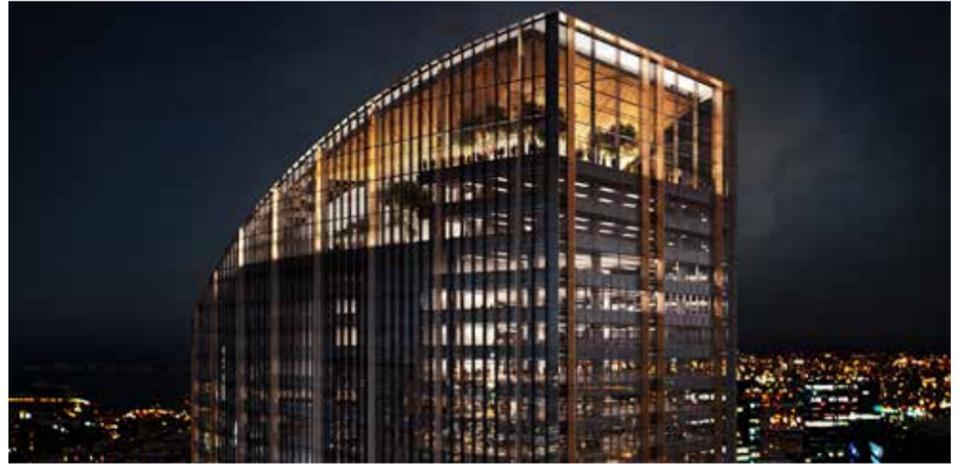
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New owner for Melbourne Quarter Tower

WORDS BY *Spencer Fowler Steen*
PLANNING

Multinational construction group and Docklands developer Lendlease has announced that one of the world's largest pension funds has acquired the last and largest commercial tower in the Melbourne Quarter Precinct.

Located directly across from Southern Cross station, Melbourne Quarter Tower will deliver 34 levels of premium-grade office space and be home to 15,000 employees.

The iconic building, now owned by the National Pension Service of Korea, will provide large light-filled floorplates, and will add

further public spaces including a vibrant retail mix across around 3000 sqm.

A boutique Wellness Hub, including childcare and allied health services to make life within the precinct easier for all those who work and play there, will be part of the building.

It also creates a new city laneway to form the pedestrian spine of Melbourne Quarter connecting Collins St with Flinders St.

With construction underway, Melbourne Quarter Tower will complete the precinct's public square and the final phase of the elevated Sky Park, the first of its kind in Melbourne.

The tower is set to provide leading sustainability outcomes in energy and water consumption, waste management and indoor environment quality, according to Lendlease.

Lendlease is in discussions with several other leading companies for space within the tower, due for completion in 2024.

One of Australia's largest private health insurers, Medibank, will be the anchor tenant of the new tower.

Designed by international architects Woods Bagot, the 34-level building will become Medibank's new national headquarters.

Lendlease Property Australia CEO Kylie Rampa said she was "delighted" to welcome NPS and Medibank to Melbourne Quarter, with Melbourne Quarter Tower to complete the city's market-leading commercial precinct.

"Melbourne Quarter is one of the largest mixed-use urban regeneration developments the city has seen. It connects people and plac-

es with transport and technology in a green, amenity-rich, urban environment to improve wellness, productivity and social connection," she said.

Melbourne Quarter is an inner-city precinct catering to the needs of commercial office workers, nearby residents and people wanting to delve into an authentic Melbourne experience.

The \$2.9 billion urban renewal project stitches together the fabric of the CBD, connecting Melbourne city with the Southern Cross Precinct. Once finished, Melbourne Quarter will include 150,000 sqm of commercial office space across three towers, two residential towers with 1500 apartments and 40 retail shops ●

Retailers struggle with COVID-19 scare at The District Docklands

WORDS BY *Rhonda Dredge*
COMMUNITY

Staff at food outlets are working overtime to reassure customers they are safe following the announcement that two retailers were declared hot spots for COVID-19 at The District Docklands.

Kiern Lim, the store manager of Fish Pier, has about 50 customers a day and she's talking to them all, she says.

"I talk to them, educate them, make them understand, why The Butcher Club is closed," she said.

And Joanne Wu, the sushi maker at Sushi Yuzen, is busy getting ready for the lunch trade. "We want customers to return here to always keep them happy," she said.

Both outlets have loyal customers, and they want to reassure the Docklands community they are still open.

The Butcher Club and Gourmet Deli House

were closed by the government in the first week of the lockdown after a positive case visited The District Docklands on Thursday, July 15.

Both stores were still closed as the state entered its second week of lockdown, with the director of The Butcher Club, Peter Robinson, critical of the speed of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

"We're opening today but we don't have a tick-off from DHHS," he told *Docklands News* on July 23, despite having a certificate for deep cleaning the store.

"We're old hands at this," Mr Robinson said. A Butcher Club outlet in Chadstone was the site of one of the first outbreaks, hospitalising the manager.

"In the Docklands case a positive customer wandered through the stall. One staff member had to do 14 days. She came back negative. All other staff are fine to go," he said.

Mr Robinson said the exposure occurred on the Thursday but DHHS did not call until 2pm

on Saturday and the information did not go up on the website until 11.06am on Sunday.

"Where's the delay? They walked through on Thursday and on Saturday afternoon we were told to close."

The shopping centre has been through a difficult period during the pandemic and has now faced a COVID scare.

Businesses are keen to dispel the idea that the shopping centre and Docklands, in general, should be avoided.

Kiran Aryan of Docklands Spicelab, across Docklands Drive, said that people on the other side of Collins St were avoiding the place because of the negative publicity.

But for some niche outlets, the pandemic has forced them to reassess their way of operating and they have come up with creative solutions that suit the local palette.

From Scratch Dough is specialising in making sourdough pizza bases to supply to food outlets and locals can walk in off the street and

buy them directly. The bases are hand-stretched and hand-made and take 48 hours to make.

The resurgence of these small-scale food suppliers is some consolation for a population struggling with isolation.

"Most of my customers are IT people," Kiran said. "Most are working from home. It's hard for everyone. It's mentally taking its toll. They're used to being alone, but they like to catch up for coffee and a snack with colleagues."

Lunch time in The District Docklands is now a good place to be with some good snacks on offer. Fresh oysters are being shucked at Fish Pier and Kiern, also a chef, will point out which fish suit which dishes.

At Docklands Spicelab they've just put samosas and kachori in the oven, delicious, spiced lentils inside fried pastry.

At Sushi Yuzen there is vegetable tempura, takoyaki and chilli chicken as well as the usual sushi. "I do like making sushi," Joanna said. "Connecting with customers is more fun." ●

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Firelight Festival postponed ... again

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*
PHOTOGRAPHY BY *John Tadigiri*
EVENTS

Docklands' much-anticipated Firelight Festival, which was set to provide a welcome economic boost, became a COVID casualty for a second time in as many months.

Set to begin on July 21, the major event was postponed again after an outbreak of the virus and the state's subsequent lockdown dashed any hope of the festival going ahead.

City of Melbourne Lord Mayor Sally Capp said they had made the difficult decision to postpone the event which would have generated \$4 million and attracted more than 75,000 visitors to Docklands.

"The free tickets for Firelight were snapped up quickly, which shows how many people were looking forward to the Docklands event," she said.

"We will update the community as soon as possible about the festival's new dates and schedule. Events are critical to our economy and support many talented people from performers to production staff."

"The City of Melbourne is committed to investing in events and activations that support the industry and encourage people back into the city when restrictions have eased."

Rose Houndalas, who was excited to open her Greek Trojan Food truck at the festival, said she was devastated by the news.

"I was 100 per cent looking forward to it. We've done it three years in a row," she told *Docklands News*.

"The City of Melbourne does an absolutely amazing job. It would've given us a very good boost.

"We rely on those festivals ... it brings a lot of people together, all cultures, it's something nice that we need. Unfortunately, times have changed, especially for us in the hospitality industry."

Ms Houndalas said while she understood safety was a priority, the fifth lockdown had struck a blow with revenue dropping to 80 per cent of normal trade.

"Day-by-day, it's a struggle. Health comes first, hopefully they can control this sooner than later," she said.

Another food truck owner who runs Taco station, said "It is what is. It's happening all around the world, there's nothing really you can do about it".

Arina Kruglyakova, head of sales and marketing at the Melbourne Star Observation Wheel, said the Firelight Festival was "such a fantastic and celebratory activation by City of



▲ Docklands' Firelight Festival has become a COVID casualty.

"We rely on those festivals ... it brings a lot of people together, all cultures, it's something nice that we need. Unfortunately, times have changed, especially for us in the hospitality industry."



Melbourne, and we love being part of it yearly."

"While we are of course disappointed that it is not going ahead, we were looking forward to lighting up in our fiery light show and opening late to welcome all guests attending," she said.

The family-friendly festival was originally due to be held in June but was postponed after the state's fourth lockdown was announced.

The event was set to transform Docklands with flame jets, fire twirlers, music performances, food stalls and more.

New dates were yet to be confirmed before the August edition of *Docklands News* was published ●



▲ A highly-anticipated activation strategy "to bring back the buzz" to Docklands has faced a further delay.

Plans for precinct revival faces further delay

Continued from page 1.

It comes as the City of Melbourne revealed in its *COVID-19 Reactivation and Recovery Plan* in September last year that the reconstruction of Central Pier would be a "priority" infrastructure project and would "explore opportunities for water transport and tourism and a strategic feasibility study of a maritime heritage museum experience".

A spokeswoman for the Victorian Tourism Industry Council (which was not engaged in the strategy) said a rethink was needed for major

events in Melbourne to "attract more of a local market ... because in the short to medium term that is going to be our audience".

"We have to start working together as a collective, not finding solutions for this precinct or that precinct, but actually working together as a collective to build a better proposition," the spokeswoman said.

The pandemic has struck a heavy blow to Docklands with the president of the Docklands Chamber of Commerce, Johanna Maxwell, saying in the July that the precinct "was struggling like nowhere else in the country".

The Firelight Festival was postponed due to the latest lockdown but in a welcome boost, the council's FOMO Freebies campaign saw hundreds of Melburnians flock to Docklands while the Docklands Dollars initiative has also been a success ●

Run Melbourne goes virtual

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*
COMMUNITY



The sound of 20,000 runners descending on the street of Docklands will not be heard this year as Run Melbourne takes its iconic winter running festival online.

Sole Motive, the family-owned event organisers behind Run Melbourne, were forced to postpone plans for this year's run on Sunday, July 25, due to COVID-19 restrictions, with the event expected to resume in 2022.

However, with the running component of the festival adjourned until next year, would-be participants have been encouraged to hit streets of their own to continue fundraising efforts, with Sole Motive extending the associated fundraising campaign for its participants until September 19, 2021.

CEO of Sole Motive Lisa Holmes, a committed member of the running community, expressed deep disappointment with postponing Run Melbourne for a second year.

"This is an incredibly challenging time for not only the Sole Motive team and our running community, but also to the events industry of suppliers, event staff, partners, charities and other key stakeholders," she said.

"One of the greatest things about Run Melbourne, aside from raising funds for charities close to our hearts, is the ability to come together as a community."

Participants have until Sunday, August 1 to join in on the virtual fundraising efforts to help Run Melbourne's 2021 target of \$1 million.

Race day photos can be shared across social media with the tags *@runmelbourne* *#runmelbourne2021* ●

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runmelbourne.com.au

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CELEBRATING CITY BUSINESSES

Honouring small business proprietors each year is our way of saying thanks for their contribution to our city.

In 2021, businesses spanning jewellery, gaming and food and wine have been recognised in the Lord Mayor's Commendations.

Savouring a crepe on a city stroll, or settling in for a hair appointment are among many people's chief pleasures, and it seems we'll never take them for granted again.

Local businesses have faced their toughest trading conditions in decades due to the pandemic and city lockdowns, and we salute their resilience more than ever this year.

In the past year, the City of Melbourne supported local businesses with a multi-million dollar funding package. We helped proprietors shift towards digital and online platforms and to expand their operations to support a COVID-safe reopening.

Now the city is reawakening and we're welcoming visitors again, with activities that bring back the city's buzz. Melbourne is home to a vast range of city businesses, from barbers and bike shops, to jewellers, book shops, wig makers and more.



They help shape Melbourne's distinctive character – and they form a significant part of our local economy. Some family businesses have operated for many years, run by several generations.

The City of Melbourne has acknowledged their efforts through the Lord Mayor's Commendations since 2005. To date more than 620 small businesses have received commendations. Each business is a story in itself, adding to the layers of Melbourne's history.

The City of Melbourne is proud to recognise and promote them, and

each year recipients appear in a photographic exhibition and join a growing alumni of fellow Melburnians.

Independent, distinctive and local – small business is the heart and soul of our community and Melbourne is all the richer for their efforts.

The Lord Mayor Sally Capp will present Lord Mayor's Commendations to this year's recipients at a Melbourne Town Hall ceremony on 12 August.

For more information, visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/commendations

LOCALS TO LOVE

La Petite Crêperie

Enjoy the lemony, sugary tastiness at this pretty takeaway kiosk that's tiny in size but large in impact. lapetitecreperie.com.au

Kozminsky Studio

This famous studio dates its history back to the 1850s Gold Rush and remains a stylish city destination for stunning jewellery. kozminsky.com

EARL Canteen

Be very tempted by EARL's delicious displays of locally-sourced produce, from salads, sandwiches and healthy snacks to hot food and coffee. earlcanteen.com.au

Mind Games

Bringing the fun to Melbourne, Mind Games is an essential city destination for the best in board games, puzzles and roleplaying games. mindgamesmelbourne.com

Lord Coconut

With its undeniably aristocratic character, Lord Coconut offers men's wedding rings, designer cufflinks

and much more, stocking exquisite creations from more than 30 jewellers. lordcoconut.com

Docklands Health

Yoga and pilates down by Melbourne's waterside are teamed with other allied healthcare services. docklandshealth.com.au

Shakahari Vegetarian Restaurant

Dine in to enjoy fresh and surprising dishes at this iconic Carlton restaurant which makes vegetarians the special guests. shakaharivegetarian.com.au

Jissara Hair

Run by the same family in Kensington since 1954, Jissara passes on the passion for hair styling to each new generation. jissarahair.com.au

Alpha Lewis Signs

Another family-owned business, this firm makes its home in North Melbourne, producing everything from traditional signwriting to digital printing. alphalewisigns.com.au

IN-BRIEF

BUSINESS SUPPORT

Do you run a local business? For one-on-one advice, contact our Business Concierge team on 9658 9658 (press 1 for business) or enquire online, and subscribe to our Business in Melbourne newsletter for regular updates. melbourne.vic.gov.au/business

CURATED READING LISTS

Find great books to read with recommendations from our expert librarians. This month we're shining a light on Homelessness Awareness Week through a curated reading list. To browse these books and more, visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/libraries and click on 'Read'.

RAINBOW CARERS

Do you provide unpaid care to an older person, or someone living with a physical or mental health condition or disability? The City of Melbourne offers supportive programs for carers, including a dedicated group for LGBTIQ+ carers, in partnership with Queerspace. Find out more at melbourne.vic.gov.au/carers

NEW PLAYGROUND

Bring the kids to test out the leafy new playground at Lincoln Square in Carlton. It features tall play towers high up amid the tree canopy, a suspended rope bridge, large tunnel slide and equipment suitable for all ages and abilities. melbourne.vic.gov.au/cityprojects

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Watch meetings live from wherever you are thanks to our live-streaming capability. Tune in live or catch up later. Find all the details about Council and committee meetings at melbourne.vic.gov.au/aboutcouncil

ADVERTISEMENT
Your City of Melbourne community update

LOCAL CHILD CARE LOCATIONS

Give your child a great start in life at one of the City of Melbourne's network of family-centred long day care and integrated kindergarten services.

Our staff promote early learning, diversity and resilience, and ensure children have their voices heard. We also challenge children to be creative and innovative to help nurture future leaders.

Looking to the future, we're working to co-locate more services for children and families to make it even easier for young families to access integrated support.

In North Melbourne, Lady Huntingfield Early Learning and Family Services Centre has been rebuilt into a multi-functional centre to better meet the needs of the growing and diverse population.

The new centre offers childcare, kindergarten, maternal child health and immunisation services, parenting support services and playgroups under one roof.

In your neighbourhood

We own and manage the following services for children and families:

Lady Huntingfield Early Learning and Family Services Centre
87-93 Haines Street, North Melbourne
Phone: 03 9658 9658

North Melbourne Children's Centre
28 Howard Street, North Melbourne
Phone: 03 9658 7888

To find out more about any of the above services, visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/childcare

We also own the following community-run centres in the municipality. Each of these centres maintains its own fee schedules and vacancy lists, so please contact them directly to find out more.

Gowrie Carlton Learning Precinct
150 Palmerston Street, Carlton
Phone: 0458 323 808
gowrievictoria.org.au/childrens-programs/carltonlearningprecinct

The Harbour Family and Children's Centre
1 Seafarer Lane, Victoria Harbour, Docklands
Phone: 03 8624 1000
gowrievictoria.org.au/childrens-programs/docklands

East Melbourne Child Care Co-operative
Powlett Reserve Children's Centre, Corner Grey and Simpson streets, East Melbourne
Phone: 03 9419 4301
emcc.org.au

Fawkner Park Children's Centre
65 Toorak Road West, South Yarra
Phone: 03 9820 2758
fawknerpark.com

Kensington Community Children's Co-op
81B Altona Street, Kensington
Phone: 03 9376 4565
kccc.org.au

Information and events in this publication are current at the time of printing. Subsequent changes may occur.



The City of Melbourne offers a network of neighbourhood child care centres



The new Lady Huntingfield Early Learning and Family Services Centre

HUSTLE AND HEART DRIVES SIGNAL'S YOUNG ARTISTS

Follow in the footsteps of outstanding young artists at Signal, the City of Melbourne's creative studio for people aged 14 to 25.

Whether you are a filmmaker, actor, visual artist or anything in between, you can find the support and encouragement you need to take the next steps in your creative career at Signal.

Since creating her one-woman comedy cabaret *LOTUS* with Signal, Chi Nguyen has secured support to develop and premiere her show *Miss Saigon-Wrong* at the Bowery Theatre and acted in Netflix series *The Wilds*.

AP Pobjoy secured investment to extend the film they made for Signal's

Young Creatives Lab (called *Why Did She Have To Tell The World?*) for ABC TV, and an internship with Film Victoria.

Betiel Beyin received a mentorship with renowned artist Candy Bowers through the Signal program and has gone on to write, direct and act in her own web series, called *Lil CEEBS* for Instagram TV.

Head to *Melbourne* magazine online to read our interviews with Chi, AP and Betiel [magazine.melbourne.vic.gov.au/community-stories](http://melbourne.vic.gov.au/community-stories)

To get involved with Signal, browse what's on at melbourne.vic.gov.au/signal



Betiel Beyin and her team at work

KEEP IN TOUCH

To stay connected with all the latest news from the City of Melbourne, follow us on social media and subscribe to *Melbourne* magazine online at magazine.melbourne.vic.gov.au

You can also join conversations to influence plans for your neighbourhood through Participate Melbourne at participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au

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HISTORY

Something fishy at Spencer Dock



By the early 20th century, several odours defined the dock areas. One was the unfortunate stench of the Yarra from decades of sewage and waste disposal, and another was the smell of fish which wafted from the fishing boats and from the marketplace that once stood at the west end of Flinders St.



This was likely a common smell to any sailor who sailed their ketch into the dock featured in this photo, taken some time in the 1900s. Located on the corner of Spencer and Flinders streets (where the Crowne Plaza and World Trade Centre currently sit), Spencer Dock (or Little Dock) was a haven for many small ships between 1854 and 1930. Many were involved in the timber trade, collecting cargo from places where the railways had not yet reached or braving the Bass Strait ferrying freight to and from Tasmania. The photo shows a busy day at the dock with multiple sailing vessels berthed, as a manual crane hovers ready to haul goods to their next location.

The surroundings, however, have their own story to tell. On the far left corner is a small building owned by the ship chandler and ironmonger business, Inglis, Smith and Co. While the business had already existed for some decades, the store at Spencer Dock is first mentioned in Sands and McDougall in 1903, and was still there by the 1970s. Behind that, on the far left corner is the Head Office of Victorian Railways, opened in 1893, and the steel bridge floating above Flinders St is the railway viaduct, built in 1891. Curiously, behind the viaduct is the Sir Charles Hotham Hotel, which has existed on the corner of Spencer and Flinders streets since 1852. Eagle-eyed observers may notice that it's unusually shorter than the building on its left, as this was the original hotel before it was re-built with an art-nouveau design by William Pitt (the architect behind the Princess Theatre) and re-opened in 1913.

This brings us to the easily distinguished cone-shaped turrets that spear through the skyline on the right side of the photograph, along with the brick buildings on the dock's right side. These belonged to the Melbourne Fish Market (also known as the Corporation Markets). From 1865 until the 1890s, the Fish Market had been selling the catch of the day in a building where the current Flinders Street Station entrance now stands. However, while it was a success, it did prompt complaints. A would-be retailer known as "H. D." complained to *The Age* in 1883 (June 8), noting that the limited space meant few shops operated and that "no one has a chance of commencing business, however much he may wish to do so." In the 1880s, with new railway lines such as the Baxter to Caulfield line bringing more fish to Melbourne, there was a growing need for a new larger building.

Construction began at the viaduct site in January 1891, and the building was opened on October 25, 1892. It cost more than £200,000, took up nearly six acres between Spencer and King streets, and was built using a contest-winning design by R. G. Gordon, an architect for the Tramways Trust. The market featured two buildings divided by the viaduct. The first was the narrow three-storey frontage facing Flinders that included tall Victorian gothic towers, and a 110-foot (33-metre) tall clock tower, which was used for warehousing and retail. Behind the viaduct, on the Queen's Wharf side was the main market (seen far right in the photo). It featured stall space for around 24 fishmongers to sell their wares,



as well as troughs to wash their seafood in. A special platform in the market allowed trains from Spencer and Flinders streets to directly unload fresh fish and game onto trolleys which were hauled along tracks to the stalls for speedy delivery. Some of the stock would come fresh off the boats that berthed at Spencer Dock. Fish, meat, eggs and butter would be stored in the cool storage rooms, including nine freezing chambers with boiler and engine house accommodation. While primitive by today's standards, refrigeration was revolutionary to marketplaces, allowing food to remain fresh for sale longer (and reducing wastage), when many households either relied on iceboxes or had to cook their perishables immediately. Inspectors, who would examine the quality of fish, had their own living quarters within the premises.

By the 1900s it was a common sight to see eager buyers crowd around the markets at the fashionably late hour of 4.30am to grab their fish. *The Williamstown Chronicle* in 1903 (January 24) describes the hectic mornings as the trains from Flinders and Spencer streets hauled in stock and the wharf side and front of the markets were so crowded with fish carts that "in a quarter of an hour the roadway was blocked." Inside, hawkers of all nationalities would pick out the best produce, which also included game, crayfish, oysters, rabbits and farm produce, and sellers would spruik their goods causing a "deafening" squabble. As soon as the buyers found what they needed, they would haul their carts to the city streets, hoping to gain a profit from civilians who were not in the

mood for a lamb roast. In 1902 alone, 191,966 packages of fish and 471,934 pairs of rabbits were sold at the market. After frantic bidding, hungry buyers could grab a bite at the restaurant at Wharf Rd.

The market continued business until the 1950s, but the market's deteriorating hygiene standards and the foul fish smell drew many complaints from the public. Eventually the markets were moved to Footscray Rd, and the old building was demolished in 1959 to make way for the Flinders St overpass, a highway bridge that took up the west portion of Flinders St. Ironically, the overpass lasted less time than the market, being torn down in 2005.

Today the once proud market site is home to a large apartment complex that obscures the skyline for any train-bound sightseers. In the meantime, while eating them is not possible, exotic fresh fish have made a comeback to the Yarra banks thanks to the Melbourne Aquarium where many denizens of the deep swim with the extra benefit of being odour-free ●



Ashley Smith

RESEARCHER
ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF
VICTORIA

ABBY'S ANGLE

The adventures of a gypsy soul

I have been living in my home, my beautiful home that I renovated and have loved living in.

My beautiful home that overlooks some of the most idyllic countryside with cattle and a river and mountains, my beautiful home that my son and our crazy family of animals have grown up in, for more than 10 years. And that's a long time for me.

I have what I have called a "gypsy soul", for most of my adult life. A yearning to travel, to move, to create new spaces, to find new faces and to explore and challenge myself. I've picked up and moved with hardly a moment's notice, young bub in tow and landed in communities knowing no-one and establishing a place to be for a while. It's usually been led by work opportunities – a chance to manage a new division, an increase in responsibilities, a move to head office region ... so there's always been a "reason to go" that's always outweighed the reasons to stay.

I decided to settle, and to renovate a beautiful home to create a "permanent" space, to give more certainty to my young son. To give him a school to grow with, a community to be part of, a place to call home. When we moved here, we knew no one and it wasn't for a work opportunity. It was a lifestyle choice, a chance to be the best mum I thought I could be, to provide all that he would need to succeed.

He finishes school this year, and while the focus is certainly on the study that should be happening, and the plans that should be clear ... I find myself dreaming of packing up again. I love my home, but my reason to stay seems to have been achieved and the reasons to go are calling my name. It's a very long time since I've had the freedom to live as I choose, to go where I feel, to respond to my soul. It has been, delightfully and rightfully, focused on school times and sport, on raising a young tiny bubba into the wonderful man he is becoming. It was my absolute priority to settle and focus on this goal and it has been a wonderful, insightful, challenging and rewarding experience.

But now I've paid my last school fee, and sat in my last parent teacher interview. There will soon be TWO adults in this house, and I will have – on my own, with no partner – brought him up through his childhood and school years to graduate and be on his way to where he wants to be. The sacrifices have been enormous but without question, they have been worth it. And now, I'm dreaming of what life will be like on the "other side" of parenting.

I am fortunate to have pivoted my business in COVID to be focused on consulting with wonderful clients. COVID has shown us all

that working remotely can be readily done. So, I think there will be no empty nest happening here. I won't be pushing him out of the family home, but I think I will be stretching my wings and taking off on short flights again! While I'll always cherish and keep our family home, I can't wait for freedom again. Should I stay or should I go? I believe there is a balance where both can be achieved!

If your soul craves more, if your heart beats to a different kind of drum, if you ache to live the way you've dreamt of, then keep going. As you get closer, your heart will tell you the direction to take. For me? A home to return to and hold all that's dear, and a horizon of adventures for this gypsy soul.

Until next month xx ●



Abby Crawford

LIFE@DOCKLANDSNEWS.COM.AU

COUNCILLOR PROFILE

“You’re never, ever going to get bored”; Greens councillor

Elected in 2012 at the age of just 27, Greens councillor Rohan Leppert is a Town Hall veteran of sorts. But he admits that in his third term, the role is harder than ever.

One gets the sense that with Rohan Leppert, things are rarely done half-heartedly.

Perhaps it’s an innate thoroughness, mixed with a healthy level of anxiety, but the City of Melbourne councillor rarely enters discussion or debates without being fully armed with the facts.

This shines through in public forums, both at Town Hall and online.

Perhaps it’s unsurprising then that, soon after COVID-19 hit Melbourne, he felt the need to commit full-time to his role as councillor.

For Cr Leppert, life on council has changed.

“It’s a great honour and privilege to help everyone every day through council. But it’s also harder to do this job now than it has been at any other time in my nine years here,” he said.

“The role of political leadership is very different to what it was before the pandemic. We have to be champions for a city in crisis.”

Speaking with *CBD News* just as Melbourne entered a fifth period of lockdown, Cr Leppert said the pandemic had sharpened his focus.

“Taking on the trauma of people who are going out of business or whose loved ones are experiencing acute mental health issues is not easy. But I do know what my purpose is at the moment, and that at least is something that spurs me on.”

Cr Leppert was first elected back in 2012 as a fresh-faced 27-year-old.

A profile piece in this very publication around this time described him as the “hipster councillor”, who would “not look out of place on a fixed-wheel bicycle” (generously, it credited an “intellectual substance and capacity” to boot).

As with any new councillor, he had to learn the ropes quickly.

And now, nine years on, he’s thankful for a more welcoming initiation.

“I think now is the hardest possible time to start as a new councillor. If I was starting now as opposed to nine years ago I would be ... quite upset,” he said, laughing.



“The role of political leadership is very different to what it was before the pandemic. We have to be champions for a city in crisis.”



It’s not difficult to see that a fire burns bright on a broad range of topics.

Equally comfortable speaking about social mobility as he is the finer details of planning matters, a common thread is apparent; putting people and the planet at the heart of policy.

On the former, he expresses a regret that the pandemic had severely impacted local residents, particularly in the CBD.

“I am increasingly agitated that we keep asking people to lock down, stay at home, and that’s going to keep the community safe. But we also always consider construction workers’ essential work, which makes the staying-at-home for central city residents living next door to a construction site an absolute living nightmare. That doesn’t seem, to me, to be the right balance. We need to recognise that we have tens of thousands of residents in the central city now and if the overarching health message is ‘stay at

home, be safe’, we shouldn’t make that staying-at-home experience tortuous at the same time.”

From an environmental perspective, Cr Leppert has been front and centre of the city’s accelerated rollout of protected cycling lanes.

He derives pride from the changes these projects can make.

“I still want to be part of a movement that’s saving the planet but doing that at a local level ... the ability to introduce new reforms and see those reforms actually change the way people live, is still quite exciting to me.”

Rather than being met with a sigh, the complexity of complaints he receives from constituents keeps things interesting.

“The challenges and the enquiries that come up every day are completely fresh, and I just absolutely love that. You can be working on so many things every day — you’re never, ever going to get bored in a job like this.”

While on different ends of the political spectrum to some councillors, Cr Leppert paid tribute to the “really healthy, collaborative” group at present.

A move to upper levels of government would seem a natural progression, but he is more than happy shaping policy at the local level.

“I admire those who want to be lower house MPs, but it’s something I’ve always decided is not for me.”

For this councillor, he’ll know when the gig is up.

“I still love this job, and still get a hell of a lot out of it. If that ever stopped, I’ll know I need to give the role to someone who has that energy.” ●



David Schout

JOURNALIST

DAVID@HYPERLOCALNEWS.COM.AU

PRECINCT PERSPECTIVE (NEW QUAY)

The silent swoopers of NewQuay

Dr John Officer was a venerated family physician. Tall, kindly, grey-haired, avuncular, and authoritative, he was a neighbourhood GP wholly dedicated to the wellbeing of his patients.

Early one sunny spring morning, he was walking to his surgery in Hawksburn when he stopped and turned to negotiate the peak-hour traffic on busy Malvern Rd.

As he stood at the kerb and looked east towards the stream of oncoming cars, he shielded his eyes from the glare of the low, rising sun. Seeing a break in the traffic, he stepped off the kerb to cross the road. But dazzled by the sun, Dr Officer had failed to spot a fast-moving cyclist barreling down the side of the road. Bike and rider cannoned into him, knocking him down. His head hit the concrete kerb. He was killed instantly.

I knew Dr Officer well and the manner of his untimely demise has always made me wary of speeding cyclists. There’s certainly no shortage of them around NewQuay. Many fail to confine themselves to the designated bike tracks. Instead, they weave their way, at speed, through the joggers, families, kids, mothers pushing strollers and oldies ambling idly along the generously-wide footpaths on the waterfront side of Harbour Esplanade. Especially around Central Pier.

A few malevolent cyclists seem to delight in startling the strollers. A couple of weeks ago a friend and I set out for a morning jaunt, strid-

ing south towards the river. We’d been walking for just a couple of minutes when a young rider swooped past, his bike less than 30 centimetres from my left hip. This prompted a spontaneous expletive and set my heart racing.

By the time I yelled after this rogue rider, he was already 20 metres away. He glanced back over his shoulder with what I swear was a smirk. I’d been relating a funny story to my walk-mate and I’d hate to think what would have happened if I’d been buoyant enough to, say, exuberantly bust a sideways dance move to illustrate a point. I’d have ended up like Dr Officer. You just don’t hear cyclists coming from behind. They are silent swoopers.

Though it wasn’t the first time a cyclist has intentionally startled me, hoons like this are in the minority. Thankfully. Nonetheless, it seems that the courtesy of a warning bell from cyclists approaching pedestrians from behind is the exception rather than the rule these days. The fat-tyred electric food delivery bikes with their insulated boxes perched high on the back are the most silently sinister. They’re steered flat out by resolute riders with stationary legs. Measured by sight against the traffic on the road, these electric bikes often appear to be powering along footpaths at more than the

prescribed 40 kph road speed limit for cars.

At the other extreme, I have often encountered riders pedalling lazily along as they hold their smartphone screens up at eye level, while distractedly negotiating a jagged path through ambling pedestrians. I have even spotted an electric skateboard whizzing down the bike riding track with the occupant, unbelievably, also holding his phone up at eye level as he sped along. I feared for his safety among the serious lycra-clad Armstrongs, their helmeted heads down and their tails in the air, intent on their own personal Tour de Lance. They seem reluctant to shift or slow down for anyone.

A promenade (as in NewQuay Promenade) is, by definition, a public area set aside as a pedestrian walkway. Attached to posts on our promenade at NewQuay are signs reminding cyclists of this fact and urging them to ride slowly. But slow riders are very much the exception. A rarity, in fact. All bike riders seem stubbornly reluctant to check their momentum. They weave around pedestrians, heedless even of the children who frequently play among the white sculptures outside the waterfront Berth restaurant.

There are also signs on the promenade banning motorbikes. These have certainly succeed-

ed in keeping the Hondas, Harleys, Suzukis and Kawasakis at bay. But perhaps we need a new definition of what constitutes a motorbike. A battery-powered electric motor between two wheels rather than petrol-power is, technically, a motorbike. Surely.

NewQuay is the most vibrant of Docklands’ four precincts. It has the best amenities, restaurants and the most colourful street life. But I fear that it’s only a matter of time before there’s a casualty due to a silent, speeding, swooping cyclist. Heaven forbid, perhaps even a fatality.

So, join me in yelling “Slow down!” whenever you are swooped by a cyclist. If we all do it, we may eventually make a difference. After all, there are many more pedestrians in NewQuay than cyclists ●



Julian Smith

NEWQUAY RESIDENT

WELLSAID@TPG.COM.AU

Housing equality, a better future for all Australians

Welcome to the last article of our 12-part series which will attempt to explore the role that housing can and should play within Australian society and why it is important to our economy that we house all Australians, rich or poor.

This series intends to draw on a range of perspectives centred around housing and homelessness. We hear a range of views from business, the not-for-profit sector and hopefully government, as to why they believe housing is an important social and economic building block for Australia's future prosperity.

In the last article, we were very fortunate to get Mark Steinert, the recently retired managing director of Australia's largest residential developer, Stockland, to share his thoughts around why the objective around housing all Australians is important, especially within the City of Melbourne...

Australia, "The Lucky Country", continues to offer great opportunities to the majority of its residents having experienced moderate COVID impacts and enjoying economic growth consistently above the OECD average. Australia is home to just 0.3 per cent of the world's population, but accounts for 1.6 per cent of the global economy. However, according to the last Census, 116,000 Australians are homeless and represent the most socially and economically disadvantaged. They do not feel lucky. This number is expected to have grown as COVID has created an even greater disparity between the haves and have nots, particularly for single women over 50 and indigenous Australians. Housing affordability more broadly also remains a significant social and economic issue, affecting social cohesion, wellbeing and inter-generational mobility.

This is not a new problem and it is not unique to Australia. House prices have increased by 60 per cent more than goods and services on average across OECD countries during the past two decades. How we use our land and the cost of serviced land are primary drivers impacting the supply response in areas where demand is strong, which is particularly the case in job abundant urban areas like Sydney and Melbourne. Land values have risen materially faster than construction costs with Australian house prices growing 6.8 per cent pa for the past 25 years while construction costs per square metre have tracked closer to inflation.

The reasons for rapid land price inflation are many, with the most important being an under-supply of zoned, serviced land, which largely reflects strong demand growth, and complex, inefficient planning policies, which means rezoning can take up to 10 years, and lagging infrastructure provision. Government charges have also grown relentlessly. For example, the Housing Industry Association of Australia (HIA) estimates that direct and indirect costs associated with the planning process represent 25 to 35 per cent of the price of new housing. Two of these issues can be solved by introducing more flexible, efficient land use zoning controls coupled with much greater approval certainty at all stages of development, and reducing government charges where the derived benefits are greater than the tax revenue foregone.

It is important to remember that government policy will normally reflect the actual or perceived views of the community, with the vocal minority quite often having a disproportionate impact. Nimbyism (Not in my backyard) contributes to slow planning processes and a reactive, rather than proactive, approach to land use. Importantly things are changing with most Australian cities now having an aligned land use planning and infrastructure vision. However, the practical outcomes on the ground are still desperately inefficient.

Circular, sustainable economic and social principles applied to land use, construction and place making can create lower costs of production and maintenance, while creating more desirable community outcomes. Major enabling rail infrastructure and master planning of associated near station land use is a great example that produces significant direct and indirect economic and social benefits. Importantly all of these benefits must be counted to ensure the right decisions are made in allocating scarce resources.

Significant economic and social benefits are clearly observable from the new metropolitan rail infrastructure developed in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane in the past five years. This is the first significant heavy rail development in these cities in 50 years and combined with the master planning of near station land use has helped address affordability, inequality and economic growth. A new home in the west of Melbourne or Sydney is typically now only 35 to 45 minutes from the CBD and other key employment nodes by train, and costs less than half an equivalent home in the middle ring. The new stations offer significant park and ride fa-

cilities but are future proofed with large drop-off areas, bike and scooter parking, improved pedestrian paths, security and big data analytics. In the best examples adjoining convenience stores, supermarkets and services are blended with diverse housing solutions to create vibrant town centres. Childcare, schools, medical and wellbeing centres, government service centres, flexible work spaces, community gardens, community centres, landscaping and public art combine to create a real sense of place.

The time is now, with supportive social and affordable housing policy in focus with a bipartisan government view that housing or shelter, part of the base of Maslow's hierarchy of human needs, is a common need for societal wellbeing. Proof includes the 2020-21 Federal budget estimates which forecast a 37 per cent increase in housing related expenditure to \$3.7 billion.

However, current policy will still leave thousands homeless during the next decade and without community, private sector and government support for high-quality development, this crisis will continue. This is where the private sector has a significant role to play. Trust must be built through high-quality development, placemaking and social and enabling infrastructure delivery. A more deterministic and efficient planning and approval process needs to not only deliver housing at scale but high-quality parks and open space, digitally enabled STEAM, life-long learning hubs, health and wellbeing centres, job creation, walking and riding trails, vibrant town centres and public/private transport connections.

Density done well is the key to improving affordability and liveability, enabling younger generations to buy or rent a home and older generations to downsize in suburbs where they live. Connecting public infrastructure is essential and, importantly, innovation like electric autonomous vehicles, electric shared scooters and bikes, solar-lit walking and riding paths and digital safety monitoring offer practical, non-intrusive, green solutions to getting people to central train and bus stations. Billions is lost each year in planning and building approval uncertainty and inefficient transport solutions. These can be the source of funding for social and affordable housing and integrated placemaking through fair value capture. Done right social and affordable housing issues could be solved within a decade.

However, this better future requires a new approach from all stakeholders to put the needs

of our whole community first, enabling the use of scalable master planning to develop better communities. This must not be at the mercy of the political cycle or the NIMBY trends that are so prevalent. YIMBY is the future ... yes in my back yard because I trust that sustainable, planned development that balances social and economic needs will be good for me and my community.

We have come to the last article of our series. I hope you have found them instructive and helpful in shaping your view around why we need to create housing for all our people, rich or poor.

I hope you found the above perspective by Mark interesting and insightful. It demonstrates that the private sector also has a strong view about the basic equity involved in providing our fellow Australians with the provision of safe and secure shelter. This is not just a social issue, it is a long-term economic issue for Australia and the private sector is also concerned. But they never had a voice. That is the reason why we established Housing All Australians. To represent a private sector voice in a national housing/homeless discussion through an economic lens.

While what was said may not align with your view of the world, we all need to listen and digest what is said by others in order to find common ground. This is why we are focusing on the fact that the provision of shelter is a fundamental human need (not human right) and without that need being met, we have unintended social and economic consequences that will span generations. We are leaving an intergenerational time bomb.

The language we use is communicating the issue is important, and no one can say that safe and secure shelter is not a fundamental human need. We need to use the narrative that unites a community and not one that divides it.

Doing nothing is NOT AN OPTION! We need to act and we need to act now. Any significant impact will take decades to materialise. All of us need to be part of the solution so please feel free to write to me with your thoughts: info@housingallaustralians.com.au ●



Rob Pradolín

FORMER GENERAL MANAGER AT FRASERS PROPERTY AUSTRALIA AND FOUNDER OF HOUSING ALL AUSTRALIANS (HAA)

INFO@HOUSINGALLAUSTRALIANS.COM.AU

OWNERS' CORPORATION LAW

Noisy neighbours



Living in an apartment building brings with it all forms of minor inconveniences. Compromises are often required as part of everyday life, as residents are required to live and put up with noise and reduced expectations of privacy, in return for the convenience of living in mixed-use neighbourhoods.



However, there has always been a difficulty in how to resolve issues between neighbours when everyday minor inconveniences stray into major problems and major nuisances and hazards.

The owners' corporation (OC) is not the best arbiter of these disputes, because often it can become a matter of "he said/she said" and there is a lack of objective evidence as to the true level of noise and behaviour.

However, recently an owner took another owner to VCAT and was successful in obtaining damages of \$9000 for breach of rules relating to noise and nuisance.

The building was a mixed-use retail-residential complex called "The Orchid" located in West Melbourne.

The applicant claimed that she had been subjected to unacceptable noise coming from the unit above, and that rubbish had been thrown onto her balcony by the owner above, who lived there with his wife and three children, aged eight, five and four.

The owner had been served with three Notices of Breach by the OC, but the nuisance and noise had continued, eventually forcing

the applicant to vacate her apartment and lease it out.

However, before the applicant moved out, she was forced to install a retractable awning on the balcony to prevent objects being thrown (at a cost of \$3500) and to install sound insulation in the ceiling of her apartment (at a cost of a further \$4000). There were further costs incurred in obtaining acoustic engineers reports and advice as well.

The VCAT member made findings that indeed there were several incidents where children were screaming on the balcony, and that objects had been thrown onto the applicant's balcony, including food, toys and liquids. The VCAT member further found that the applicant's decision to spend money on the awning and ceiling insulation, and to ultimately vacate the apartment due to the nuisance was "understandable and not unreasonable."

The incidents of noise and throwing of objects had continued over a 14-month period virtually unabated.

In the circumstances, VCAT was readily able to find that the claim for nuisance was successfully proven, and that the damages claim was

reasonable.

The case illustrates that lot owners and residents should not have to put up with objectively unreasonable behaviour from other residents and lot owners. A person's right to quiet and peaceful enjoyment is never absolute, given that we live in a world where construction noise, traffic noise and ordinary noise coming from other apartments and buildings is a common occurrence.

However, where that noise and nuisance crosses the threshold into unreasonable noise and nuisance, then the law shall respond accordingly, and where damages are not appropriate, VCAT and the courts might even grant injunctions to prevent the noise and nuisance also ●



Tom Bacon

TOM BACON IS THE PRINCIPAL LAWYER OF STRATA TITLE LAWYERS.

TOM@STRATATITLAWYERS.COM.AU

MISSION TO SEAFARERS

Discover “the Mission”

At the Mission to Seafarers I am still shocked by how many people have no idea of who we are and what we do in this lovely old building, “the Mission”.

We have been here since 1917 and I’m sure if you have looked at the place or cycled past our door you have wondered about it.

Don’t mind the shabby fences – they hide the beautiful gardens within.

The grey facade – looks old, but in WWI, no extra paint was available, so it never got painted. It is lovely inside.

You will be greeted by one of the team – staff or volunteer, to check in and take a look around. We have a bar where you can get a coffee, snack or a drink. An exhibition is always up in our Heritage room. You can stand in the middle of the Dome and sing, or sit peacefully in the chapel and admire the stained-glass windows. There is no charge to come in and discover this place on your doorstep.

Along the way you will discover how vital our work is in caring for the seafarers. A seafarer is a person who regularly travels by sea, a sailor. They are the ones who work on the tankers that bring us our bulk goods like gas and oil, and container ships for coffee beans and computers.

You might have seen a few stories recently of



seafarers who have jumped ship. Imagine sitting out in the bay, seeing the city lights for weeks while you wait for another cargo to go to the next port, but you aren’t allowed ashore. You just sit there thinking. Nothing to do as your phone card has run out. No-one new to talk to as you have been with the same 20 people for the past eight months. The food is not to your liking, you don’t get on with your boss, you are scared for your family at home – you just want to get off. Would you jump into the bay late at night?

We try to help every seafarer that calls for our help. Help to provide phone cards, items that you and I can go to the shops for – hair clippers, chocolate, new socks, a deck of cards. Since January 1 this year we have shopped for 15,500 items, spent \$197,000, delivered care packages to more than 190 ships, all for no profit.

The Mission to Seafarers is not funded by the federal nor state governments, but by you joining us at the bar, by donations, by holding events and by the communities that support us by using the building regularly. Perhaps you might like to join one of the groups that meet at the Mission.

- Docklands 500 Club
- Southbank Rotary
- Offshore Ships Specialists Australia
- Melbourne Bushwalkers
- City Light Church
- Naval Associations of Victoria
- Open Door Singers
- Maritime Museums Victoria
- First Fleet Association

There is so much going on that supports our work, but without community supporting us we will be always that “hidden” gem. Keep up to date with what’s on at the Mission on our website or sign up for our free newsletter at missiontoseafarers.com.au ●

ABORIGINAL MELBOURNE

Seen and unseen: Koorie artists tell their stories through art

WORDS BY *Spencer Fowler Steen*

A new exhibition showcasing the work of trailblazing First Nations artists from southeast Australia is heading to Melbourne.

Seen and Unseen: Expressions of Koorie Identity is an exhibition run by Koorie Heritage Trust (KHT) bringing together artwork from several exhibitions from the 1990s, at a time when many indigenous artists struggled to have their work acknowledged.

KHT curatorial manager and exhibition curator Gail Harradine, who is also a teacher and artist, said the exhibition was about acknowledging that indigenous artists from southeast Australia had struggled with being seen.

“It’s difficult to imagine that it was close to 30 years ago that Koorie artists were struggling to have their art and culture acknowledged,” she said.

“The idea of being inauthentic is absurd and yet that idea was prevalent and widely held. Together these artists offer an insight into their struggles and triumphs and what it took for their voices to be heard. While gains have been made for Aboriginal people, there is still a very long way to go.”

As a Wotjobaluk, Djubagalk and Jadawadjali woman, Ms Harradine along with fellow artist and Gamilaroi woman, Dr Donna Leslie, were among the first Koorie students to go through fine art studies at The University of Melbourne in the ‘90s.

Ms Harradine said growing up, she still remembered seeing the bones of Aboriginal people on display at museums and recalls the stories of her relatives who grew up on missions where every aspect of their lives was controlled by white people, while creativity was shunned.

But while at university, she became part of a strong First Nations arts and culture community.

“To the broader community, we may have been invisible as to our culture, identity and art practice, but together we felt empowered to make change,” she said.

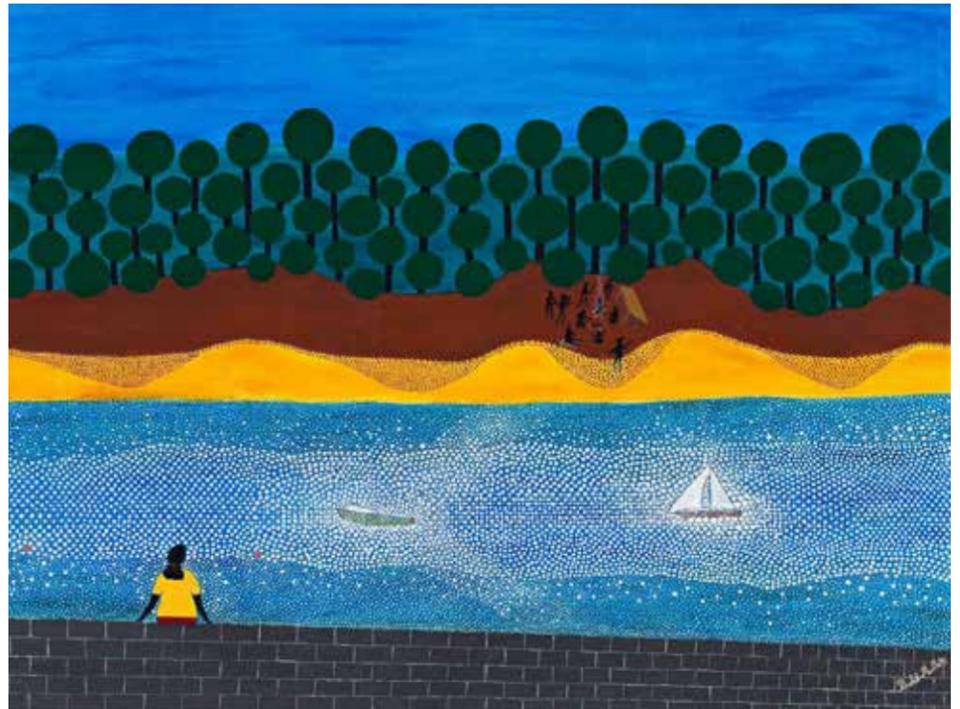


Seen and Unseen will bring together artwork from the *Can’t See for Lookin’* exhibition, KHT’s collection, archival material, oral history recordings along with artwork from other significant artists of the time.

Ms Harradine said the exhibition would also give voice to younger identities that were equally strong, resilient, and significant.

“Often when I was talking with people, they mention working around the kitchen table, it’s a huge theme. I think that importance of sharing knowledge and being able to be creative is a huge part of the exhibition and not being oppressed by the assumptions people hold,” she said.

Artists include Maree Clarke, the late Ellen Jose, Aunty Rachel Mullett, the late Aunty Connie Alberts Hart, Lisa Kennedy, Donna



“It’s difficult to imagine that it was close to 30 years ago that Koorie artists were struggling to have their art and culture acknowledged.”

Leslie, Dr Trehna Hamm, Karen Casey, Sonja Hodge and Gayle Maddigan. Other significant artists from that time include the late Lin Onus, Ray Thomas, Lyn Thorpe and the late Les Griggs.

Seen and Unseen: Expressions of Koorie Identity opens Saturday, August 7 until November 21, 2021. Koorie Heritage Trust, Yarra Building, Federation Square. koorieheritagetrust.com.au ●



For more information:
korieheritagetrust.com.au

Lessons from Liverpool

Without question, the unique maritime heritage in Docklands precinct is significant to Melbourne and to Australia as a whole.

Across the globe, for example in Europe, South America, China and the USA, Docklands precincts like ours are celebrated, enhanced and genuinely valued. Yet the threat of “investment” pressure from rapacious, inappropriate real estate development continues to threaten such significant maritime heritage precincts.

A fascinating example of this threat hit the global news headlines this week about the maritime precinct of the major port city of Liverpool (UK) on the River Mersey losing its World Heritage status granted in 2004. See bbc.com/news/uk-england-merseyside-57879475

Sobering parallels can be drawn between the sorry saga of Liverpool's degraded maritime precinct and Melbourne's Docklands precinct, specifically regarding Central Pier and Victoria Harbour which are, like Liverpool's famous dock area, significant maritime heritage sites. But in 2013 Liverpool council approved a Docklands Re-development Plan worth £5.5 billion for skyscrapers, a cruise liner terminal and thousands of apartments on the Docklands site. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) warned Liverpool that such insensitive planning (particularly the Everton football stadium on heritage waterfront land) would have adverse consequences, including the possible loss of Liverpool's World Heritage status. UNESCO said the planned developments could “irreversibly damage” the city's historic Docklands Precinct, warning that Liverpool may lose the “outstanding universal values” for which it was granted World Heritage status in 2004. In relation to such “outstanding universal values” is

of course, potential economic loss of declining property values – the elephant in the room – which are eroded over time.

Fast forward to 2011, UNESCO expressed concern that the height of planned buildings included the tallest tower outside London, which would significantly alter the skyline and fragment the dock areas. Might sound familiar to Docklands residents? UNESCO found “serious deterioration” of the historic site and threatened the heritage significance value of the city's waterfront. Again – familiar to Docklands residents? There are, of course, differences today between Liverpool, recognised as a former major trading centre during the British Empire; and Melbourne, which remains a fully operational major national port city – one with rich maritime heritage.

Fast forward again to 2021 – Liverpool Docklands is set to lose World Heritage Status. How perplexing it is to consider that this could happen to Liverpool – site of the most marvellous Royal Albert Dock opened in 1846, the first structure in Britain to be built from cast iron, brick and stone, with no structural wood, as well as the first non-combustible warehouse system in the world, later to feature the world's first hydraulic cranes.

Yet Liverpool, despite this extraordinary world-renowned maritime heritage, appears to have succumbed to the irresistible lure of inappropriate and insensitive development. Liverpool appears to have been induced by developers to squander its maritime heritage values. Melbourne, although initially reluctant to value its maritime heritage assets, now



seems, to an extent, to be “pausing”. A pandemic-induced re-focus perhaps? A realisation that Docklands developments which detract or threaten our remaining maritime heritage assets are simply “not on”. Docklands residents are only too aware of this. For example, there is still time for Central Pier to be sensitively restored and redeveloped; derelict wharves enclosing Victoria Harbour can be restored; ferry infrastructure to enable expanded waterway activation can be installed. With intelligent development planning in Docklands, maritime heritage can be preserved and celebrated. This will benefit us all.

A reminder that MMHN was established to address the decades-long “amnesia” surrounding maritime heritage in Melbourne, which is all about Docklands and the decades of neglect on Central Pier, degraded wharves of Victoria Harbour, the inexplicable thoughtlessness of the Bolte Bridge which was built too low to enable shipping close to the CBD and Victoria Harbour. Persistence is raising the significance and value of maritime heritage with bureaucrats and politicians and is taking effect. Vigilance and staunch proactive advocacy around maritime heritage infrastructure is the ONLY defence. Soon Development Victoria will be consulting widely on the future of Central Pier. Be sure to have your say when the time comes!



Jackie Watts

CHAIR OF MELBOURNE MARITIME HERITAGE NETWORK

JACKIEWATTS@NETSPACE.NET.AU

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

It's Women's Health week!

If you haven't heard about Women's Health Week, in 2013, realising that there was no event dedicated to women's health in Australia, Jean Hailes for Women's Health ran the very first national Women's Health Week.

Thousands of women across Australia subscribed to take part in a week of events and on-line activities, learning more about their health.

Now in its ninth year, Women's Health Week continues to gain groundswell nationally. In 2020 (despite COVID-19), more than 90,000 women participated in more than 1400 events, and more than 45,000 women subscribed to the online campaign.

Women's Health Week, held on September 6 to 11, is the biggest national health week for women and girls.

In the Docklands Health clinic we celebrate women's health and we are hosting Women's Health Event on September 7, from 7pm to 9pm.

It's a timely reminder to take time out to check in on your health and to keep making positive changes that can last a lifetime.

Good health and wellbeing should be a priority for all women but there is a heightened focus for new and expectant mums with emotional and physical needs. At Docklands Health, we're encouraging women to put their health first and take proactive steps to being healthy in mind and body and urging them to set aside time to invest in their health.

This year, with the impact of COVID-19, good health is more important than ever. It's so important to keep up with regular health checks and getting anything that doesn't feel right checked out.

In Docklands Health we are multidisciplinary team consisting of physiotherapy, chiropractic, psychology, myotherapies and nutrition, with different experience which work together to help you reach your goal.

As we are hosting women's health event on

September 7, we invited very excellent speakers and we will all learn by listening to them.

Our speakers are:

- Physiotherapist – Maryam Dadvar
- Women's occupation therapist – Emma Diepenhorst
- Gynecologist and obstetrician – Maryam Ebrahimi
- Healthy aging – Professor of Medicine at University of Melbourne Cassandra Szoeki

If you have any question and doubt going to be best time to clarify and learn more.

In Docklands Health Clinic we offer clinical pilates for posture correction, neck and shoulder pain, lower back and pelvic pain, hip and knee pain, improving sporting performance, chronic pain, flexibility, muscle strength, muscle balance and core and pelvic floor strengthening, rehabilitation after motor vehicle or work related accidents, recovery from sports injuries as well as pre- and post-natal exercise and rehabilitation.

This year's women's health event we will emphasise how important exercise is before, during, and after pregnancy.

“Women with uncomplicated pregnancies should be encouraged to engage in aerobic and strength conditioning exercises before, during and after pregnancy,” – ACOG, Committee Opinion No. 650, December 2015 ●



Dr Mike Edgley

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Emma Diepenhorst – OT from Elevation Women's Health

Dr Maryam Ebrahimi – Gynecologist & Obstetrician

GPs from Victoria Harbour Medical Centre

Cassandra Szoeki – Professor of Medicine at Uni of Melbourne

Tickets \$5 - www.docklandshealth.com.au/whw



Beating pandemic blues and loving life ... from her apartment

For retiree Rosemary Noble, beating pandemic boredom is proof that nothing is impossible: she has published a book, is learning Italian, and loves tapestry.

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*

"I have a go at all sorts of things," the Docklands resident of 13 years said.

"I'm making the most of what's around me and living it as much as I can."

One of her proud achievements was editing and publishing a book that celebrated 150 years of the Victorian Artists Society (VAS) of which she is a council member.

Over three years, Ms Noble, a former teacher, writer, editor, and TV producer, spent countless hours bringing the book to fruition before it was launched last November.

"It was really quite different from anything I've ever done before," Ms Noble said, who described her contributions to the 104-page full-colour book as a "labour of love".

Titled *Victorian Artists Society 1870-2020: Celebrating 150 years*, the book consists of

anecdotes, sketches, and paintings from the society's alumni past and present.

It also features the early years of the society's inception including honouring members such as Fred McCubbin, Tom Roberts, Charles Conder, and Arthur Streeton, who were key to the Heidelberg School art movement.

Much of her research included scrolling through the society's vast archive files and listening to the stories of current VAS members.

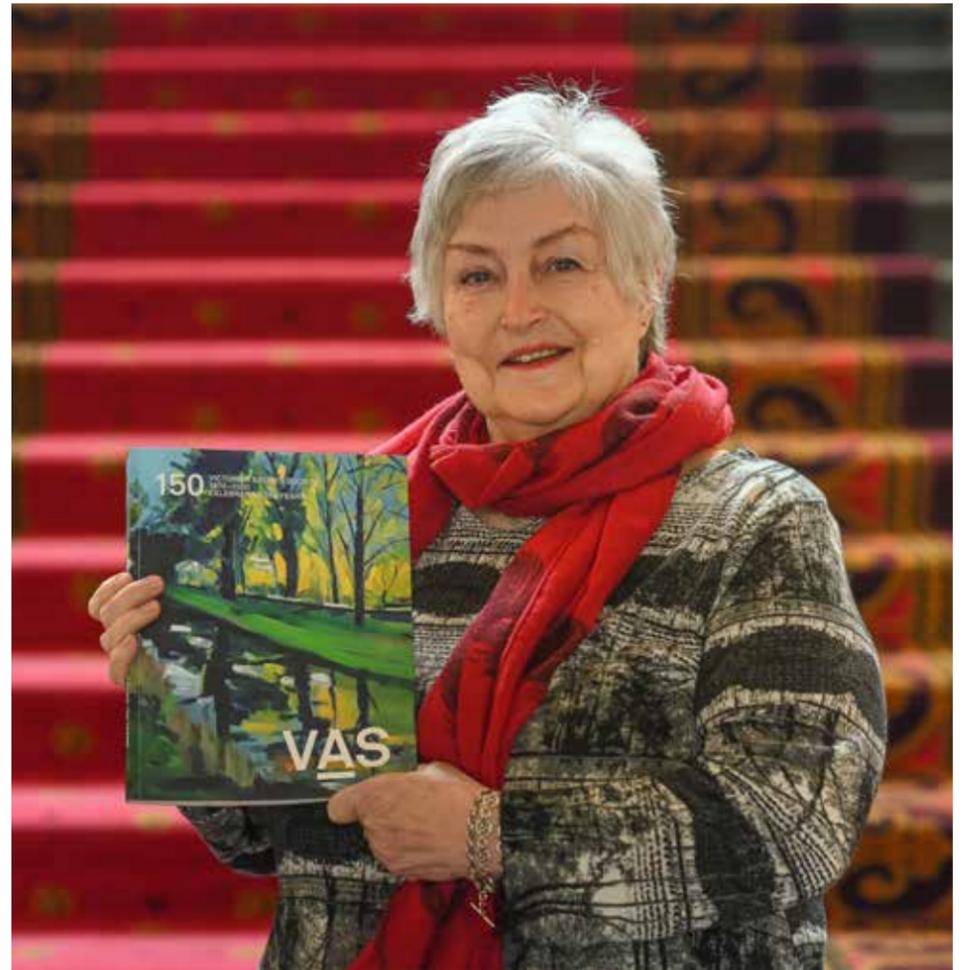
With the help of contributions, she said, "I think it's lovely and I'm quite proud of it. It's been widely accepted ... everyone in the society loves it of course."

At 72, Ms Noble said keeping her mind busy was good for her mindfulness, and was "not one to sit around the television without something to do with my hands, I've got to have something going on."

Throughout the pandemic, she has been undertaking lessons in Italian and loves needlepoint and tapestry.

"My apartment is full of my handcrafts. I've always enjoyed textile crafts of various kinds like spinning and embroidery and dressmaking," she said.

"All my friends own cushions or bags or something that I've made over the years. They all got things like that for Christmas because I spent so much time on it last year."



If that wasn't enough, she loves tending to her courtyard garden and enjoys listening to audiobooks (with a passion for crime fiction) and will "get through a couple of hundred books a year to keep me going."

"My friends often say to me I never keep still ... you can never say there's nothing to do. There's always lots and lots of things to do." ●

WE LIVE HERE

High-rise, high-risk

The build-to-rent high-rise towers proposed for the Marvel Stadium precinct could become high risk ghettos for short-stays.

It is disappointing that Lord Mayor Sally Capp has been quoted as supporting the 28- and 30-storey developments on a dormant La Trobe St site – without any safeguards in place to prevent a short-stay takeover.

If approved by Minister for Planning Richard Wynne, we could have a good proportion of nearly 700 apartments thrown onto the grossly under-regulated short-stay market.

The Lord Mayor harbours the forlorn hope that the development will bring "much-needed diversity" to the housing mix in Melbourne.

There is little chance of diversity Lord Mayor; this development will be a magnet for the worst type of short-stay opportunists – unless you or the Minister take action to prevent this otherwise certain eventuality.

Cr Capp admitted that the council knew "renters in Melbourne are among the most stressed cohort within our population". And yet this cohort will be lumbered with all the high-risk and anti-social behaviour associated with living adjacent to short-stays.

Without proper regulation, imagine the utter chaos of two new short-stay dominated towers with interstate visitors arriving from COVID hotspots around Australia.

We can suggest an apt name for the new council-sanctioned project: COVID-Central.

Let's talk about planning schemes

Local planning schemes control the use, development and protection of a particular area; these came into being long before high-rise residential developments overtook Melbourne and surrounding suburbs. It's time for an overhaul.

The National Construction Code NCC has no provision for short-stays in Class 2 buildings. The NCC is managed by the Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB).

In 2018 the ABCB set out to "discuss and seek feedback on the effectiveness of the voluntary Industry Code of Conduct" – referring to the Holiday Rental Code of Conduct developed by short-stay operators in Docklands.

The ABCB discussion paper *The NCC and short-term accommodation in apartment buildings*, included these definitions:

"In simple terms, Class 2 buildings are apartment buildings. They are typically multi-unit residential buildings where people live above and below each other."

"In simple terms, Class 3 buildings are a common place of long term or transient living for a number of unrelated people."

This ABCB discussion paper exposed the myopia of the review process, skewed by placing commercial interests above resident safety.

For example, take fire safety. Class 3 buildings have a range of safeguards to deal with the transient nature of guests who are not aware of fire exits or where fire equipment is located, plus management protocols for at-risk residents such as those with health or mobility issues.

While the ABCB review readily identified the fire risks of having short-stays in Class 2 buildings, one of the solutions it canvassed was to "include additional fire safety features in Class 2 buildings".

Revealing the influence of the almighty dollar, the ABCB review offered this startling value judgement: "A disadvantage of this option is costs for owners of short-term accommodation."

Moving along to the nexus between "bylaws", Consumer Affairs and Planning. Unlike NSW body corporates, Victorian owners' corporations cannot make rules or bylaws about the use of lots because the *OC Act 2006* – according to Justice Riordan – was not written in "clear and unambiguous language".

The craziest thing is that the state government excluded "Section 8 – Rules of the Owners' Corporation" from its review of the *OC Act* – with the indolent excuse that the components needed to be addressed in the context of the applicable planning schemes!

It is time for an overhaul, not for sweeping the issues under the carpet.

We need to have Planning and Consumer Affairs at the same table to get meaningful change.

COVID normal?

When restrictions are lifted, and we return to some semblance of normality – whatever that is – we will be emerging into a new landscape – one created by COVID.

How we live and work could be vastly different from what we have known in the past, and we must use the opportunity presented to us to see this happens and we get it right.

The new norm for accommodation in Melbourne must include proper provision for everyone: students; those needing social housing or medium-priced housing; owner occupiers, long-term tenants; business visitors and tourists.

When the pandemic is under control and we start to move into this new landscape please can the city planners create a vision that will accommodate all those who live, work and play here so we once again can reclaim the title of the most liveable city in the world?

Let's have proper regulations established to prevent short-stay ghettos before the Marvel Stadium towers disaster is foisted upon us.

Now is the time to act. We need to start afresh with input from all stakeholders – there will never be a better opportunity to do it.

Stop short-stays? There's an app for that!

If you are tired of seeing key safes all over

the city, there is an app that can make them disappear, sometimes quite quickly!

Absentee short stay operators often leave apartment keys in key-safes attached to parking signs, bike racks or other council property – which, unsurprisingly, is illegal.

To witness magic in action, download the Snap Send Solve app for Android or Apple. This is an app that lets you notify the council of issues in your community. Take a picture of the offending key-safe that you found attached to council property and submit the image on the spot via the app under the heading of "Road Signage", for example. The app will include the exact location, saving you the trouble of describing it. It only takes a few seconds to submit a report and the council will send the bolt-cutter crew in due course, possibly the next day.

Thanks to the reader who sent in this tip! Keep those texts and emails coming in!

Campaign donations

As a not-for-profit organisation, donations from individuals and buildings keep our campaigns going. To register as a supporter of We Live Here or to donate, please visit welivehere.net. We Live Here does not accept donations from commercial tourism interests ●



Barbara Francis & Rus Littleton

EMAIL
CAMPAIGN@WELIVEHERE.NET
LEARN MORE AT
WELIVEHERE.NET





JANELLE

“Watching movies and TV shows that I like, a bit of walking and cooking. I really love to cook. I also work with CSL making the Astra Zeneca vaccine, so I’m lucky to be able to go in to work.”



BEN

“Watching the Olympics and Paralympics has inspired us to keep working hard.”



SINEAD

“I’m a nail artist. I’ve been staying at home, doing lots of creative things and keeping busy with work. I just started my own business and have been doing lots of online sales.”



MIRANDA

“I have been doing puzzles, I bake, I try to play music, watch a lot Netflix and keep in touch with as many people as I can.”

Faces of Docklands

What kept you entertained and busy during lockdown?

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CHAMBER UPDATE



Version 5.0



One column I’m writing that this has been the toughest of lockdowns yet, and then just four weeks later I’m trying not to repeat myself.



There has been a very clear shift in business thinking with this episode though. I’ve seen so many of our members fighting, doing small things to stay open, keep their staff busy and employed. That’s ceased almost across the board. While this column won’t be released until after lockdown 5.0 has hopefully been lifted, this change in mindset is going to take a lot of effort, money and insight to get past.

Events in 2021

Having Firelight postponed was a little heart-breaking to all. We know that Melbourne was excited – it was fully booked well in advance – and our VIP event for member businesses had more than 120 in attendance.

We also know it’s going to be harder and harder to get events approved while this new strain of the virus continues to circulate. When or if Firelight comes back, please come to our opening night event, introduce yourself to all the other Docklanders who’ve lived through this with you.

Membership moves

While Docklands Dollars is currently on a little hiatus with lockdown, new members continue to take advantage of the free listing and exposure across our socials. Please contact me directly – admin@docklandsc.com.au if you’d like to be part of the Docklands Chamber which is still free for 2021 ●



Shane Wylie
MEDIA DIRECTOR

DOCKLANDSCC.COM.AU



Proud of their hand-made products

The guys at S.P.Q.R were busy loading up the pizza oven with sourdough bases down at The District Docklands in July despite the gloom of the lockdown.

People love their pizzas and sales of bases are doing well now there is more of a focus on home life.

From Scratch Dough sells two ranges to food stores, a confit garlic base and one with tomato sauce.

The business, like many, has evolved out of the changing conditions brought on by the pandemic, from pizza restaurant to base manufacturer.

“We started during the first lockdown because we couldn’t sell as a restaurant,” operations manager Jackson Maddocks said. “We did takeaway for a while.”

“In January we closed down to the public and ground full time to manufacturing.

It’s working out really well. We’re selling 5000 pizza bases a week.”

The business is one of a number of Docklands food retailers now supplying to a specific market rather than to destination visitors.

The people just aren’t around at The District, so the business is distributing to where the consumers actually are – places like Queen Vic Market and local food stores.

“There’s not a lot happening around here,” Jackson said. “We found our niche market to fill. It was kind of our mindset of a few places we wanted to distribute to.”

Jackson is proud of their specialist sourdough mixture. The bases are hand-stretched and hand-made and take 48 hours. The starter is 18 years old.



When heated up at home with toppings, the bases remain chewy and appeal to the more discerning tastes that have evolved during lockdown.

Jackson said that the important thing about being in the hospitality industry was making people feel welcome.

“Hospo is about being hospitable,” he said.



▲ Jackson Maddocks working on the production line.



Rhonda Dredge
JOURNALIST
RHONDA@CBDNEWS.COM.AU

“So many people have their own environment in a café. You’re not there for yourself. We try not to make people feel excluded.”

Customers can walk in off the street and buy the wood-fired bases, knowing they’ll be good.

Docklands can be proud of the hand-made products now replacing the more generic ones aimed at tourists ●

TRADER PROFILE

Saving the world, one barrel at a time

There’s no staring down the barrel for Marshall Waters whose wine bar at the Queen Victoria Market is all about reusing and refilling.

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*

His unique set-up allows customers to come back and refill their bottles straight from the barrel – and it’s proven to be a hit.

“Some of my longest standing regulars have refilled the same glass bottle 500 times,” Mr Waters said.

The ReWine business’s focus on recycling while offering premium wine meant “considerable savings” for customers.

All wine is locally sourced – including the iconic regions like Heathcote and the Yarra Valley in Victoria, and Gundagai in NSW – with an “opportunity to taste everything because it’s all on tap”, Mr Waters said, who also owns a stylish wine bar and shop in Brunswick East, with another due to open in Fitzroy soon.

With more than 30 years of experience in the wine and hospitality industry, he can “work out pretty quickly what people like and then I can point them in the right direction”.

The wine list has “something for everybody”, from classics such as shiraz and chardonnay to cabernet sauvignon and pinot noir, as well as nebbiolo, a red wine grape variety from the Barolo region of Italy.

Since opening at the Queen Victoria Market 12 years ago, ReWine has offered a relaxed atmosphere complete with a delicious selection of cheese. In winter, their famous spice and sweetened mulled wine is sure to keep you warm.



“Funnily enough, we’re actually the first people at the night market to implement a refillable cup as well,” Mr Waters said.

The recycled cups are made from cornstarch and bamboo which customers receive when they pay a deposit and get a refund when they return it.

However, due to COVID restrictions, ReWine’s presence at the night market has been put on hold as management aims to meet crowd capacity limits.

Mr Waters said they were due to open in August but “at the moment it’s all hanging in the balance – whether it happens at all.”

In the meantime, his daytime wine bar at the



market has continued, and Mr Waters said he was most proud of reducing his carbon footprint by refilling bottles, which accounted for 85 per cent of ReWine sales.

“It’s a really significant figure. A new glass bottle represents over 50 per cent of the total carbon footprint of the whole of wine so we’ve removed that completely,” he said.

This year will also mark a significant milestone with the company refilling a million bottles since the business began in 2006.

Along with his team, Mr Waters credited his success with the strong relationships he has built with various winemakers across the country which meant he could sell high-quality wine

at a fraction of the price of the big wine brands of a similar quality.

“It’s all bought in bulk, there’s so much good wine out there and so many people that I’ve got relationships with from the wholesale days over the past 20 years that I can source almost anything,” he said ●

For more information:
rewine.com.au

Pet's Corner

From Bondi to Docklands

“

For Dachshund Sachi and her owner Jenn life during the past 14 months has been a bit of a whirlwind.

”



WORDS BY *John Tadigiri*

From tan Dachshund Sachi's humble beginnings on a farm in regional NSW to the beaches of Bondi and now bright lights of Docklands, Sachi and her person Jenn have formed an inseparable bond.

"When we first got Sachi, she was very timid and weary of people because she was raised on a farm with very little interaction with humans," Jenn said. "Soon after, she got accustomed to us and now she is extremely attached to me, to the point that is still very hard to leave Sachi alone at home to this day."

"She is a very energetic dog, and she is not afraid of anything. She loves St Bernard's and can play for

hours."

"She is also a very vocal and extremely smart. She doesn't bark but she cries and complains for everything. She knows how to get her way."

According to Jenn, Sachi is a real dog's dog. She absolutely loves any dog and will play with anyone.

"She loves parks like any other dog, but she also enjoys going out with us to cafes around the area," Jenn said.

"Every morning we either visit Burger café or the café terminal café next to the port. Me and my friend Shivani, who lives around the corner, catch up at the iconic *Cow up a Tree* with her dog every morning to take them both for a 40-minute walk." ●

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10 YEARS ON

Looking back at Docklands News - 10 Years On

AUGUST 2011 | ISSUE 67 |

DOCKLANDS NEWS

So it's the DIY library

With no sign of the long-promised Docklands Library on the horizon, a group of Docklanders have started their own.

The Dock 5 owners corporation has started things off with up to 1000 books from the Athenaeum Library in Collins St.

Owners corporation chairman Denis Setches said the library idea stemmed from a survey of residents late last year.

"We put up a whole lot of ideas and the library idea scored very well," he said.

As Denis was already a member of the Athenaeum Library, he progressed the idea there. And he didn't have to look far to do this either.

Athenaeum Library manager Allison Belcher is also a Dock 5 resident having downsized from a family home in West Melbourne about 18 months ago.

Ms Belcher considered the CBD, St Kilda Rd and Southbank before settling on Docklands.

"It's just so central in Docklands," she said. "We are only across the road from a post office, bank, dry cleaner, pharmacy and supermarket."

While based on an initial rotating contribution from the Athenaeum, the Dock 5 library will be supplemented by residents' own contributions.

"While the Athenaeum books will be signed



▲ Denis Setches and Allison Belcher at the Athenaeum Library.

in and out, the rest of it will work like a book and magazine exchange," Mr Setches said.

The Athenaeum Library is Melbourne's oldest and is renowned for its crime fiction collection. But a mix of general fiction, crime fiction and non-fiction underpins the Dock 5 book cache.

Ms Belcher hopes the initiative will lead to similar arrangements with other buildings.

"The Athenaeum Library has looked for ways to connect with residents in the Docklands area," she said. "Our library offers a warm and historic atmosphere." ●

Quiz



- Which two councillors live in Docklands?
- Which impact crater on the planet Mercury was named in honour of a famous French sculptor?
- How tall is the Melbourne Star Observation Wheel: a) 102m b) 131m c) 120m?
- How many children does Mary, Crown Princess of Denmark (pictured) have?
- What Docklands building has been designed using the Hering Illusion?
- Which watchmaker is the official timekeeper of the Australian Open tennis tournament?
- Which birds of the starling family are known for their imitative skills?
- Who painted the piece of public art titled *Edge of your Seat* on Capital Alliances's M Docklands?
- An intercalary year is another name for what?
- In 1684, which colony was placed directly under the British crown?
- According to the City of Melbourne, how many people live in Docklands: a) 13,004 b) 10,957 c) 11,434?
- What are the names of Port Phillip Ferries two vessels?

QUIZ SOLUTIONS

1. Cr Jamal Hakim and Lord Mayor Sally Capp 2. Rodin 3. c) 120m 4. Four 5. Customs House (1010 La Trobe St) 6. Rolex 7. Myra birds 8. Rone 9. A leap year 10. Bermuda 11. b) 10,957 12. *Geelong Flyer* and *Bellarine Express*

5x5 No. 002

Insert the missing letters to make 10 words – five reading across the grid and five reading down.

M		E		S
	L		A	
M		G		A
	T		E	
R		T		Y

SOLUTIONS

MEETS, ILIAC, MAGMA, FTHBR, RFTRY, MIMBR, ELATE, EIGHT, TAMER, SCARY.

Sudoku No. 002

Fill in the blank cells using the numbers from 1 to 9. Each number can only appear once in each row, column and 3x3 block

EASY

		1						5
		2	7	5		9		8
	3			2				7
	6				9		2	
	5	3		6		8	4	
	9		4					6
9				3				8
3		8		7	4	5		
	2					3		

HARD

1					3	7		
		3	7					6
		8		1	9			
								9
6	4			5			1	3
	7							
			4	8		1		
	5				1	3		
		6	9					4

SOLUTIONS

EASY

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

HARD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Wordfind Theme: CIRCUS

The leftover letters will spell out a secret message.

N	B	C	T	S	A	E	P	O	R	R
U	N	L	A	T	R	R	E	R	I	W
F	E	O	B	L	E	A	I	L	N	L
L	T	W	O	I	N	D	P	T	G	I
I	T	N	R	T	A	O	R	R	M	O
P	E	S	C	S	T	A	L	E	A	N
R	N	I	A	G	P	A	N	E	S	T
A	T	T	I	E	P	O	H	T	A	
T	S	B	Z	F	L	Y	O	C	E	M
K	I	E	W	O	W	W	L	L	R	E
S	T	N	A	H	P	E	L	E	S	R

- | | |
|-----------|------------|
| ACROBAT | LION TAMER |
| ARENA | NET |
| BIG TOP | RINGMASTER |
| CHEER | ROPE |
| CLOWNS | SHOW |
| DARE | STILTS |
| ELEPHANTS | TARP |
| FLIP | TENT |
| FLY | TRAPEZE |
| FUN | WIRE |
| HOOP | WOW |

Secret message: BRILLIANT SKILLS

Crossword No. 002

ACROSS

- Small explosion (3)
- Unable to be separated (11)
- Festival, – Gras (5)
- Happening (9)
- Relatedness (7)
- Infest (7)
- Horse sound (5)
- Talents (9)
- Inform (9)
- Colour associated with jealousy or naivety (5)
- Glitch (7)
- In fashion (7)
- Extended (9)
- Italian cuisine (5)
- Awesome (11)
- Perish (3)

1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8
9						10								
11								12						
13				14		15						16		
17											18			19
20		21						22		23				
24											25			
26													27	

DOWN

- Jack-o-lantern vegetable (7)
- Everlasting (9)
- From Dublin or Galway (5)
- Sag (5)
- Era before Edwardian (9)
- Showing (a film) (9)
- Prickly shrub (5)
- Motors (7)
- Call attention to (9)
- Mechanical; involuntary (9)
- Romanticised (9)
- State (7)
- Describe (7)
- Gas layer in the stratosphere (5)
- Part of a bike (5)
- Writing material (5)

SOLUTION

E	I	G	R	V	T	N	C	V	I	C	E	P	S
L	E	B	E	V	E	I	H	N	S				
V	L	S	V	O	E	I	V	N	O	T	E		
H	I	V	E	V	I	Z	H						
H	V	I	N	D	O	P	W	E	T	B	O	A	
V	V	O	H										
N	E	E	R	N	E	I	H	I	L	I	N	E	
G	N												
S	E	T	I	L	I	T	B	V	H	D	I	E	
E	N	R											
N	H	R	E	A	O	J	I	H	S	N	I	X	
I	V	E	I	O	S	E							
O	N	I	R	R	O	O	I	D	H	V	W		
N	R	G	I										
E	T	R	I	S	I	A	I	O	N	I			

Codeword

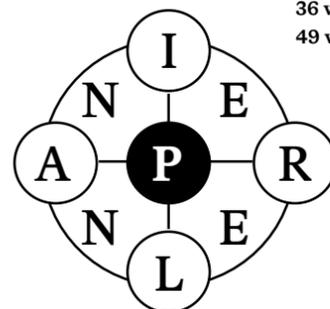
9	11	8	3	20	15	E	17	8	17	5	2	
11		11		11		5		E		E	13	
21	13	12	12	18	E	8		19	13	5	18	10
18		E				6		13		18		21
20	18	9	E	17		E	24	E	10	11	E	8
10			E			17		24		8		
5	18	18	20	7	8		8	3	H	E	10	E
		5			17		E		E			22
8	13	17	16	11	24	23		8	3	5	18	21
10		23		6		20				1		20
5	23	E	24	6		11	24	9	11	5	24	8
3		18			E	8		E		16		E
4	E	14		24	20	10	11	24	5	6	E	9

SOLUTIONS

Y	L	F	R	I	Q	P	X	G	N	H	E	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
B	J	C	A	T	W	S	D	M	I	Z	U	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13

9-Letter No. 002

Using the nine letters in the grid, how many words of four letters or more can you list? The centre letter must be included and each letter may only be used once. No colloquial or foreign words. No capitalised nouns, apostrophes or plural words ending in "s".



SOLUTIONS

alpine, enplane, leap, leaper, leper, nape, near, nap, pall, pain, pair, pale, paler, pane, panther, pare, pearl, pear, pearl, peel, peen, peer, pearl, penile, pere, PERENNIAL, piana, praline, preen, rape, rapine, reap, repeat, repel, rplne, rpe, rpen

Reference: Collins Concise English Dictionary



港区推出足球项目

Docklands体育俱乐部(DSC)将与北墨尔本足球俱乐部合作推出首个澳式足球(Auskick)计划。

By David Schout

位于Ron Barassi Snr公园的俱乐部已经提供青少年板球和足球项目，为当地儿童举办澳大利亚球赛规则项目只是时间问题。

俱乐部主席Carina Parisella说，与Docklands小学校长Adam Bright已经谈妥，现在他们都准备好了。

Bright先生曾表示，如果能开设一个足球项目，当地的孩子肯定会感兴趣。

Parisella女士告诉本报：“我们也在想为什么不这样做呢。”

“我们联系了北墨尔本足球俱乐部，他们很高兴与我们合作。”

为期五周的计划原定于7月17日星期六开始，但在墨尔本陷入第五次COVID疫情封

锁之后，暂定开始日期（在本报发布时）是7月31日星期六。

尽管这个冬季由于疫情封锁时断时续，但俱乐部在2021年继续建立其强大的社区基础。

俱乐部的旗舰项目Miniroos足球项目面向4至11岁的儿童，每个周日早上吸引了大约50名儿童。

在8月份，俱乐部还计划与墨尔本胜利足球队联合推出一项针对10至14岁儿童的项目，重点是培养足球技术和技能。

俱乐部已经与维州足球管理机构(Football Victoria)进行了对话，从明年开始组建正式的、有竞争力的青年足球队。

值得注意的是，俱乐部还在位于Bolte大桥旁Ron Barassi Snr公园的俱乐部房上安装了新标识牌。



港区商家的疫情恐慌

在港区商场(District Docklands)的两家零售店被宣布为COVID高风险疫情场所后，食品店工作人员花很多时间向顾客保证他们是安全的。

Rhonda Dredge

一家每天约有50名顾客的鱼店(Fish Pier)，店经理Kiern Lim一直在和顾客交谈。

她说：“我和他们交谈，教育他们，让他们明白为什么Butcher Club肉店关门了。”

寿司屋(Sushi Yuzen)的寿司师傅Joanne Wu正忙着为午餐营业做准备。她说：“我们希望顾客回来，让他们高兴。”

这两家零售店都有忠实的顾客，为此他们想让Docklands社区放心，他们仍然营业。

由于一位阳性病例患者在7月15日星期四到访过Docklands后，Butcher Club肉店和Gourmet Deli House餐馆在封锁的第一周就被政府关闭了。

随着维州进入封锁的第二周，这两家商店仍然关闭，肉店老板Peter Robinson对维州卫生与公共服务部(DHHS)的工作速度提出了批评。

他在7月23日接受本报新闻采访时表示，“我们今天开业，虽然没有DHHS的认可，但是他已有深度清洁商店的证书。”

Robinson先生说：“这方面我们是老手了。”在Chadstone商场的Butcher Club肉店是最早爆发疫情的地方，其经理住院治疗。

他说：“在这次Docklands的疫情案例中，由于一个确诊病例的顾客曾来过店里，导致一名店员不得不隔离14天，等她回来测试为阴性时，其他所有员工才能正常出工。”

Robinson先生表示，确诊的病患于周四光顾店里，但DHHS直到周六下午2点才打来电话，相关信息直到周日上午11点06分才在网上公布。

“这在哪里耽搁了？这位确诊的顾客是周四来的，到周六下午我们才被告知关门。”

港区商场在疫情期间已经经历了一段非常困难时期，现在又面临着COVID疫情恐慌。

商家们渴望港区商场和整个Docklands区域能正常营业。

恢复城市经济需要三年时间

根据Deloitte Access Economics的新研究显示，Docklands、中央商务区(CBD)和Southbank的综合经济将在2024年下半年才能“恢复生机”，回到COVID疫情之前的水平。

David Schout

尽管墨尔本因新冠疫情而成为澳大利亚受灾最严重的地区之一，但预测显示，本市的经济“将到2024年才能摆脱疫情的影响”。

墨尔本市区的上班族比例很高，这使得墨尔本在整个新冠疫情中变得更加脆弱，但这份由墨尔本市政委托撰写的报告显示，未来几年，墨尔本市区的上班族将出现反弹。

这次研究的区域包括Docklands、CBD和Southbank的大部分。

虽然研究的发现是一个受欢迎的积极预测，但这项研究是在5月份完成的，没有考虑到墨尔本6月份第四次封锁和7月15日第五次封锁的影响。

目前还不知道这些封锁是否会推迟复苏预期。

此外，Docklands的企业受到的打击比CBD和Southbank都要大，今年早些时候的



一份报告显示，47%的Docklands临街商店已经关门。

Docklands商会主席Johanna Maxwell上个月告诉本报，由于COVID疫情，该地区“永远不会和以前一样了”。

然而，市长Sally Capp表示，Deloitte的报告是“非常令人鼓舞的”。

她说：“令人高兴的是，报告指出了城市的相关性，以及城市作为我们国家经济的动力源将继续”。

“我们认为这是一个非常令人鼓舞的迹象，证实了在澳大利亚的大背景下，城市仍

将是一个经济动力源。我们也将此作为一种预测，我们正在尽一切努力确保我们能够真正推动经济更快复苏。”

在新冠疫情之前，墨尔本的“CBD”(在报告中涵盖Hoddle网络、Docklands、和大部分Southbank)是本国增长最快的经济体之一。

Deloitte预测，大约需要三年时间才能恢复到其在COVID疫情之前的区域生产总值(GRP)峰值约740亿澳元。

市长Capp说，关于人口外流的说法根本不准确。



港区海洋历史古船状态良好

闪闪发光的摩天大楼映照在Docklands港区地平线上，一艘拥有180多年历史的船缓缓驶过。

Emma Hartley

这是一艘近乎复制的企业号(Enterprise)古船，负责维护是Michael Womack先生，这艘船于1835年将第一批白人定居者带到了墨尔本。

Womack先生说：“这对孩子们来说是一

个很好的机会，让他们意识到不仅仅都是电子游戏，而是可以追溯到180年前，人们是如何在世界各地移动的。

复制船使用同样的1830年代技术，并且正在进行每七年一次的绳索更换。

保持这艘企业号真实性是这个项目的一个关键优先事项，为此该船依赖于传统的供应来源。

麻绳来自荷兰，帆布来自法国，斯德哥尔摩焦油来自芬兰。

用来润滑绳索的动物油脂(羊脂)“不是你想象那么容易找到的。”

Womack先生说：“我打电话给澳大利

亚动物油脂供应商，他们问，你想要5吨吗？而我们只需要几公斤，所以我最终从一家鱼薯供应商那里得到。”

他承认，如果使用更现代的材料，如合成纤维而不是大麻，肯定会更便宜。

他说：“但是这不真实了。”

这艘复制的企业号古船，可容纳8名乘客和9名船员，并定期进行短途航行。

每个月的第一个和第三个周末离开Williamstown出航，学校开展的船上活动在周日进行。

中学生可以攀爬绳索，小学生帮助拉帆。

Business Directory

Bank



BOQ Docklands
 Josephine Tan, Owner-Manager 0408 336 838
 Belinda Wynn, Branch Manager 0408 288 282
 9248 0188 docklands@boq.com.au
 facebook.com/boqdocklandsmelb boq.com.au

Entertainment



MELBOURNE STAR
OBSERVATION WHEEL
 101 Waterfront Way, Docklands, 3008
 melbournestar.com

Pharmacy



Hours: Mon to Fri **8am-8pm** & Sat 9am-1pm
 ☒ Pharmacy ☒ Giftware
 ☒ Magazines & Papers ☒ Tatstlotto
 ☒ Same day dry cleaning
66 Merchant St, Docklands (opposite Safeway)
 Ph: 03 9629 9922 Fax: 03 9629 9933
 Email: vicharbourpharmacy@nunet.com.au

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 www.arom.com.au

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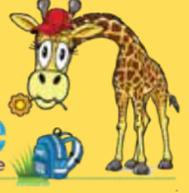
Hours: Monday to Friday **7am-8pm**
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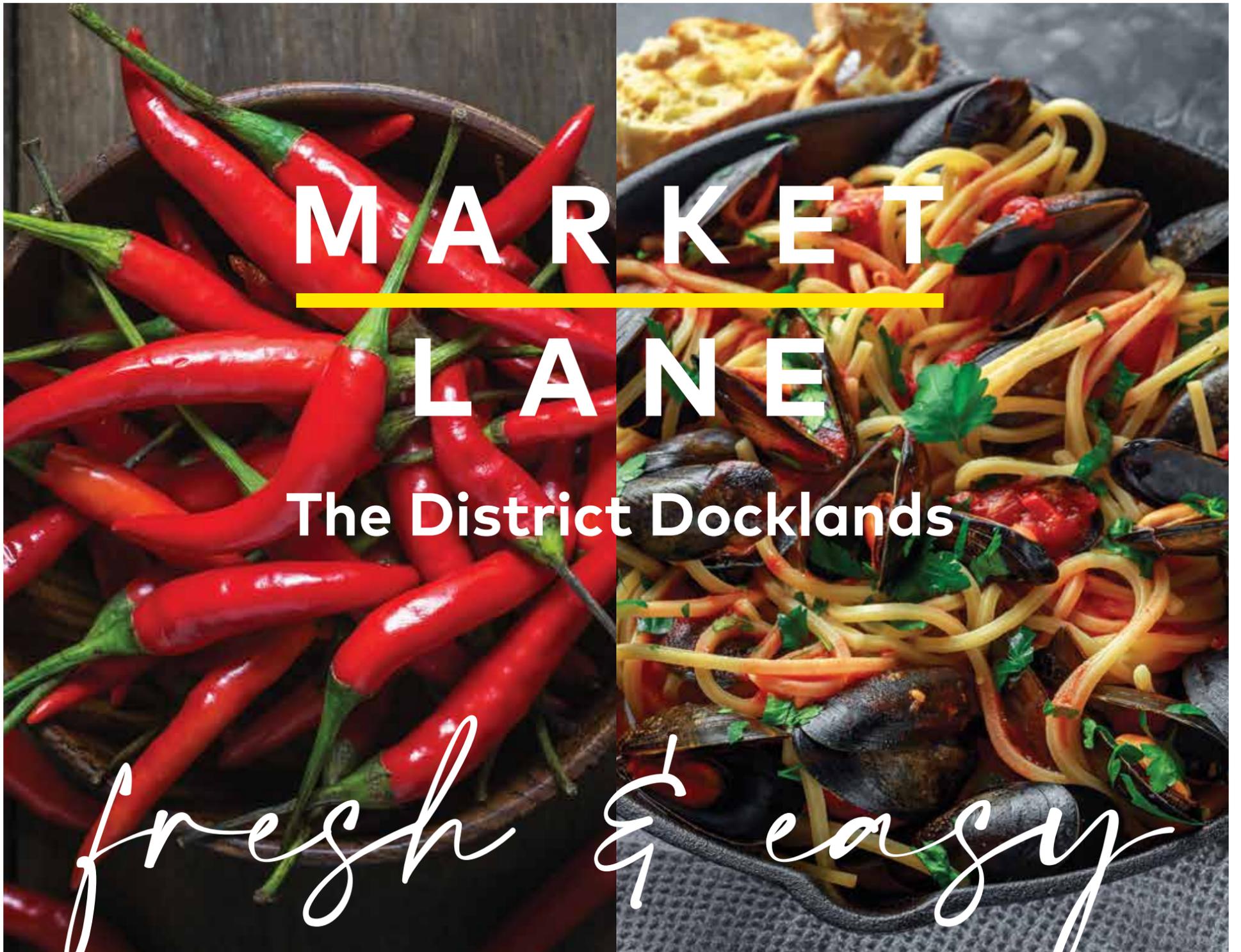
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